FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION

COVER SHEET

SUBJECT

JIMMY HOFFA

FBI HQ File 9-60052

Sub A

Subject: James R. Hoffa

Public Source Material

0-19 (Rev. 5-5-75)

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JAMES HOFFA
MISSING PERSON

Hoffa Kidnaped or Slain? Mafia Chieftain Is Quizzed

Former Chief Of Teamsters Missing 2 Days

By Joel J. Smith
and Robert E. Roach
Detroit News

DETROIT—A high-ranking figure in the Detroit Mafia is to be questioned today as to whether he is the mysterious "somebody" James R. Hoffa was to meet early Wednesday afternoon about the hour the former Teamster president disappeared "into thin air" from outside a fashionable eating and drinking place.

The organized crime chieftain was identified as Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, a friend for many years with whom the 62-year-old Hoffa may have had a 2 p.m. appointment at the restaurant Wednesday.

Lt. Curt Grennier, heading the investigation by the Bloomfield Township Police Department into Hoffa's disappearance, said Giacalone was on a list "of five or six persons" whose names the union leader's anxious and puzzled family supplied when asked who the mysterious "somebody" might be. Grennier refused to name the other persons.

THE FAMILY WAS ABLE to tell police only that Hoffa had left his Oakland County home at 11 a.m. Wednesday to meet "somebody" at 2 p.m. at the restaurant parking lot and later called home at 2:30 p.m. to say the "party" had not shown up. Hoffa said he would be home by 4 p.m.

See HOFFA, A-4

[redacted]

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A-1
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 8/1/75

NOT RECORDED
46 AUG 28 1975

58 AUG 29 1975

HOFFA

Continued From A-1

It is possible, Grennier said last night about 12 hours after the investigation was launched, that the identity of the "somebody" was known only by Hoffa.

Grennier declined to speculate whether Hoffa had been kidnaped or killed.

"We found his car but we didn't find him," Grennier said.

The disappearance came three weeks after the latest in a series of incidents reportedly involving rival factions in the 1.7 million-member Teamster's union. On July 10, a bomb destroyed a car owned by the son of the incumbent Teamster's president, Frank E. Fitzsimmons.

THE HUGE UNION is divided between Hoffa loyalists and Fitzsimmons, who became president after Hoffa quit in 1971 while serving a federal prison term.

There was no indication that the incidents were linked to their rivalry, although Hoffa wants to unseat Fitzsimmons and regain the presidency himself.

Fitzsimmons' son, Richard, is vice president of Detroit Teamster's Local 299, Hoffa's old home local.

Hoffa told The Detroit News after the bombing that he knew who did it but refused to tell. Richard Fitzsimmons was in a bar near the local union hall in Detoit when his car, parked across the street, was destroyed by the bomb.

The elder Fitzsimmons was formerly a close associate of Hoffa and in 1971 was instrumental in persuading the Nixon administration to commute Hoffa's 13-year prison sentence for jury tampering and mail fraud.

As a provision of the commutation, however, Hoffa was prevented from seeking unpon office or engaging in any union activity for 10 years. Hoffa has since charged and sought to prove in a court that after the Watergate disclosures it was evident that Fitzsimmons had made a deal with the Nixon administration in return for his release. Hoffa claims Fitzsimmons received from the Nixon administration its pledge to prevent him from seeking the union presidency. Fitzsimmons has denied Hoffa's allegation.

Hoffa was last seen between 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Wednesday in the parking lot of Machus' Red Fox restaurant, located next to the large Maple Plaza Shopping Center in Bloomfield Township, seven miles north of the northern Detroit city limits.

GRENNIER SAID two men with no apparent connection with Hoffa recognized him from his picture and casually shook Hoffa's hand. Grennier said the two men, whose identities he withheld, called the police at 5 p.m. yesterday to report the incident.

This occurred shortly after it became known that Hoffa was missing, Grennier said.

According to Grennier, the two men said Hoffa appeared casual and relaxed in a blue sports shirt, dark blue slacks and sunglasses, and it appeared that he was waiting for someone. Grennier said Hoffa apparently had no bodyguard at the time.

Hoffa's dark green two-door 1974 Pontiac Grand Ville was discovered in the restaurant parking lot yesterday morning. It was that discovery that touched off the intensive investigation. But news of the probe was not made public until late yesterday afternoon.

GRENNIER SAID the police found the car unlocked but no clues were found in the car or in the trunk. He said there were no signs of a struggle.

Giacalone, 56, who has a Detroit area criminal record dating back to 1937, was named as a "Big Man" in the Detroit Mafia in 1963 U.S. Senate testimony by the then-Detroit Police Commissioner George Edwards. Giacalone was charged in April in Detroit with income tax evasion — the latest in a long career of court cases.

Giacalone could not be located to comment on the Hoffa matter.

"We don't have any first-hand knowledge of a scheduled meeting between Mr. Hoffa and Mr. Giacalone, Grennier said. "But we have this report to this effect. We're going to contact him today. We're going to ask him, 'Tony, what do you know about this?'"

GRENNIER SAID other persons on the "list" also would be contacted and questioned.

Grennier said late last night that police had already received "about a dozen" tips in the case, some of which were checked out, or ruled out, or would be checked today.

We're going to check out every lead," Grennier said. Some will be crank calls, but we have to check them out," he said.

Livonia police searched an area in the Middle Rouge Parkway for more than two hours last night on a tip that Hoffa's body would be located there.

POLICE SAID some citizens not connected with the case were in the area but there was no sign of Hoffa.

Hoffa's son, James P., a Detroit lawyer, officially reported his father missing at 6 p.m. yesterday. The complaint was filed with Grennier at Hoffa's split-level home on Square Lake, about 15 miles from the Red Fox restaurant.

Hoffa 's family — including the son; Hoffa's wife, Josephine, and their daughter, Mrs. Barbara Crancer — went into seclusion at the Square Lake home late yesterday.

The son flew in from a vacation with his wife and children in Traverse City, Mich., and the daughter, Mrs. Crancer, flew to Detroit from her home in St. Louis, Mo.

AT 5:30 P.M. yesterday, young Hoffa came out of the house and told a reporter:

"The family will have no statement. The family is waiting for some word. We will do whatever we have to do."

Young Hoffa was dressed in casual clothes. His mother is reportedly scheduled for surgery soon for unidentified ailment.

The North American Newspaper Alliance said last night that Hoffa's family fears that he has been murdered.

"If Jimmy hasn't turned up by now, he's dead," NANA quoted a family spokesman as saying. "We're praying for a ransom note, but we have to face facts.

"We've had no indication that he's been kidnaped. No one has called us or anything. We have to think the worst."

CAPT. LEWIS G. SMITH, commander of the state police intelligence section, said last night detectives from his organized crime unit have been assigned to assist the Bloomfield police in investigating Hoffa's disappearance.

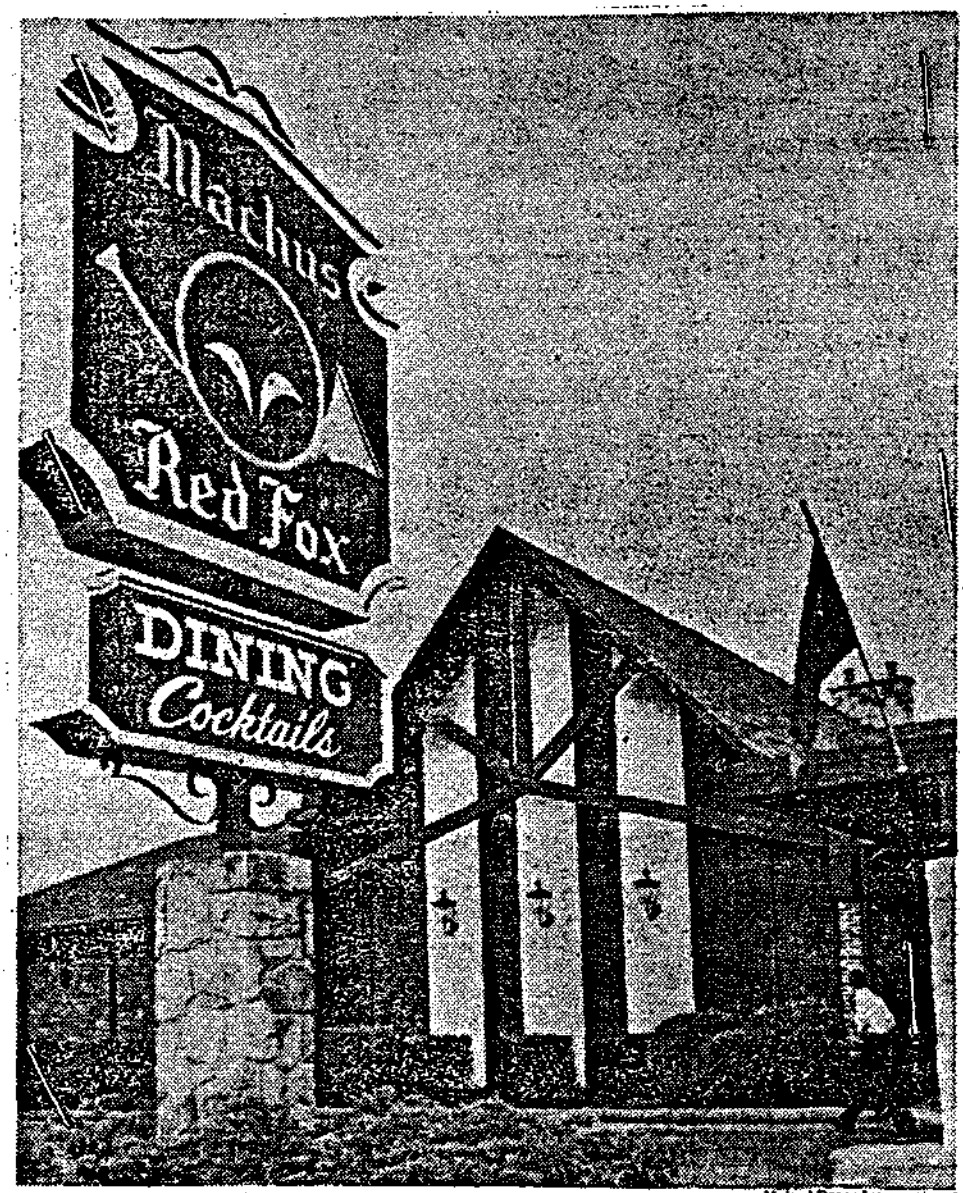
Smith declined to comment on the investigation.

Organized crime detectives from the Detroit Police Department also were at the Bloomfield police department, which is two miles north of the restaurant. They say they were there only to observe the case.

The FBI has been notified but has not been actively involved in the investigation because, agents said, there is no evidence that a federal law has been broken.

Gov. Milliken told newsmen after a television interview last night in Grand Rapids that he understood Hoffa disappeared after planning a Wednesday night meeting with Giacalone.

But Milliken would not elaborate on where he got that information.



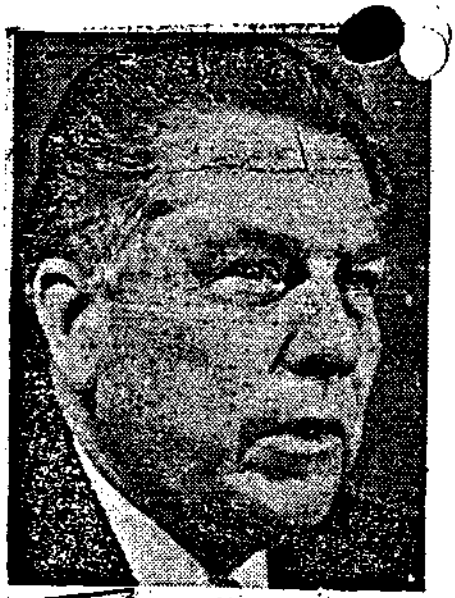
—United Press International

James Hoffa was last seen standing outside this restaurant in Bloomfield Township, Mich.



—Associated Press

Mafia chieftain Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, 62, is shown walking recently on a Detroit street.



JIMMY HOFFA
Former Teamster boss



JAMES HOFFA JR.
Reports father missing.



—Associated Press

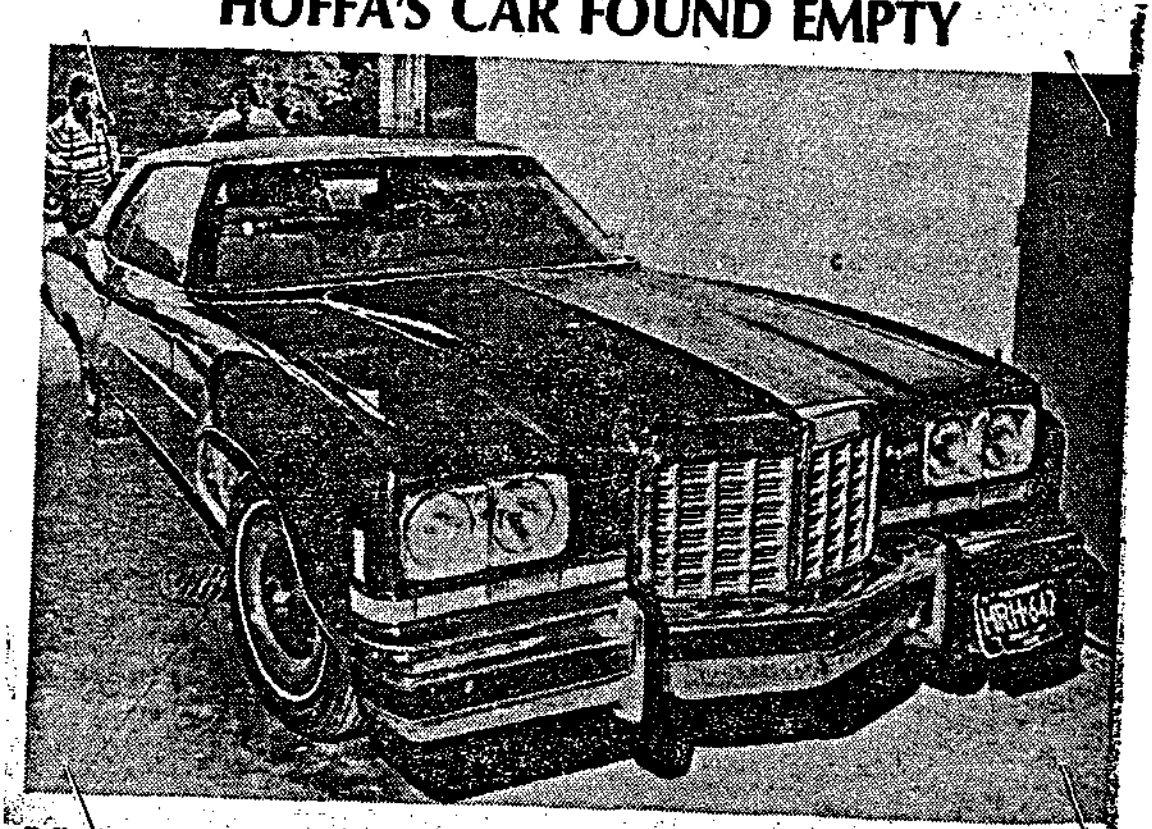
Jimmy Hoffa is shown with his wife, Josephine, in 1972.

ITZSIMMONS' CAR OMBED



On July 10 in Detroit, a bomb destroyed this car belonging to Richard Fitzsimmons, son of Frank E. Fitzsimmons, Teamsters president. Fitzsimmons and Hoffa represent rival factions.

HOFFA'S CAR FOUND EMPTY



—Associated Press

Police in the Detroit suburb of Bloomfield Township, Mich., search the trunk of Jimmy Hoffa's car for clues. The car was found in a restaurant parking lot and taken to the police garage.

Wire 5

F

Hoffa

UP-126
ADD HOFFA, DETROIT (UP-102)
THE HOFFA FAMILY SAID O'BRIEN WAS BUSY HONEYMOONING WITH A BRIDE, THE FORMER BRENDA BERGER, IN WEST MEMPHIS, ARK.
O'BRIEN, 41, WAS TAKEN INTO HOFFA'S HOME WHEN HE WAS 3 AND SERVED AS HIS BODYGUARD AND A TEAMSTERS ORGANIZER. HE INEXPLICABLY DROPPED OUT OF SIGHT THE DAY AFTER THE HOFFA DISAPPEARED FROM A RESTAURANT PARKING LOT LAST WEEK.
O'BRIEN SURFACED IN DETROIT BRIEFLY YESTERDAY, TALKED TO FBI AGENTS AND OTHER INVESTIGATORS FOR THREE HOURS, REFUSED TO TALK TO ANYONE ELSE, AND THEN, SOURCES SAID, CAUGHT A PLANE BACK TO WHERE HE HAD COME FROM -- A RETREAT IN ARKANSAS.
UPI REPORTER PATRICK HARDEN, REPORTING FROM THE HOFFA LAKE ORION, MICH., HOME, SAID HOFFA'S SON JAMES EMERGED AND TOLD REPORTERS OF THE $1 MILLION REPORT, "I KNOW IT DIDN'T HAPPEN.
"I KNOW MY FATHER'S AFFAIRS AND IT COULD NOT HAPPEN," HE SAID.
SOURCES CLOSE TO THE INVESTIGATION IN BOTH DETROIT AND THE STATE CAPITAL OF LANSING SAID THE STORY HAD BEEN THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATED AND DISCOUNTED.
AS FOR THE THEORY THAT HOFFA HAD CONSPIRED WITH O'BRIEN TO ARRANGE HIS OWN DISAPPEARANCE, YOUNG HOFFA ERUPTED, "IT IS SO OUTRAGEOUS AND SO STUPID THAT ANYONE COULD SAY SUCH A THING AFTER WATCHING THE AGONY GOING ON OUT HERE."
UPI 08-07 04:11 PED

9-60052-A
NOT RECORDED
170 AUG 14 1975

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

4 AUG 22 1975

0-19 (Rev. 5-5-75)

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$1 Million Hoffa Withdrawal Told

From Times Wire Services

DETROIT—State and federal officials are investigating reports that ex-Teamsters president James R. Hoffa withdrew about $1 million from a union pension fund shortly before he disappeared last week, according to informed sources.

A Michigan law enforcement official said the allegation came from unnamed informants in Detroit and Washington and he left the impression that the informants were Teamsters officials and knowledgeable underworld figures.

Another source in Washington, familiar with the Justice Department's investigation of Hoffa's July 30 disappearance, said similar information reached federal investigators. The Washington source said the alleged pension withdrawal was $1.2 million.

Rumors have circulated since Hoffa's disappearance that he had obtained a large sum of Teamsters pension money before he dropped from sight. But family members said they were unaware of any such transaction and James P. Hoffa, son of the missing man, flatly denied the reports.

"I know it didn't happen," the younger Hoffa told newsmen outside the family home in Lake Orion, about 40 miles from Detroit, when asked about the reported withdrawal of funds.

The significance of the alleged pension withdrawal was not clear. If true, it would tend to support a published theory that Hoffa arranged his own disappearance and is still alive. However, U.S. Atty. Ralph B. Guy was quoted Thursday as saying there is "no evidence" to support that theory.

The Michigan law enforcement source said his information was that Hoffa received the money from the pension fund for an unspecified investment. He said he did not know if the withdrawal was a loan or was Hoffa's own pension money.

"Jimmy definitely got the $1 million out of the pension fund two days before he disappeared," the source said.

In another development Thursday, a source familiar with the investigation said that James R. Hoffa's foster son, Charles (Chuckie) O'Brien, had shifted allegiance to Frank E. Fitzsimmons, now president of the Teamsters, in the current struggle for power in the 2.2-million-member union.

O'Brien, however, denied Thursday that his loyalty had undergone any change.

"Fitz and I never had a falling out. He's the general president and I worked for him. I just followed his orders and I've always tried to do my best for him," said O'Brien, who was raised by Hoffa since the age of 3 and served for years as his bodyguard.

O'Brien, reached in West Memphis, Ark., said he had made an agreement with his attorneys and authorities not to discuss anything about the case.

O'Brien and Hoffa had "a series of disappointments in their personal relationship," in recent months, according to Barbara Crancer, Hoffa's daughter.

O'Brien, a 41-year-old union organizer, said he had no knowledge of Hoffa's whereabouts. He talked with Hoffa's son, who demanded O'Brien take a lie-detector test.

"He hemmed and he hawed and he said he would have to consult his attorney," said James P. Hoffa. "I construed that to be a refusal."

A shift in O'Brien's allegiance would be significant because federal officials were still pursuing theories that Hoffa was kidnaped or killed because union foes had learned he might win a court effort to make a comeback bid for Teamsters power.

"It is the most compelling theory," an investigator said.

Hoffa called home July 30 to say Detroit Mafia figure Anthony Giacalone had not shown up for a luncheon date. The 62-year-old former labor leader has not been heard from since. Giacalone denies he had planned to meet Hoffa, a longtime friend.

O'Brien provided corroboration of Giacalone's story that he was at an athletic club at the time of the luncheon meeting.

Friends say Hoffa said the meeting also was to include former Teamsters vice president Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano and a Detroit labor figure, Leonard Schultz. Both denied the appointment.

The Hoffa family has received no ransom demands, but believes Hoffa was kidnaped. The FBI said it was operating under the assumption he still was alive.

The Washington Post
Washington Star-News
Daily News (New York)
The New York Times
The Wall Street Journal
The National Observer
The Los Angeles Times

Date AUG 8 1975

NOT RECORDED
170 AUG 14 1975

Hoffa's attorney, Leonard Boudin of New York, said he thought Hoffa was kidnaped by opponents who feared he would win a court case, opening the way for a challenge of current Teamsters leaders.

It was speculated immediately after it was learned Hoffa was missing that his opponents decided to get rid of him so he could not run against Fitzsimmons for the Teamsters general presidency.

The case involves Hoffa's appeal of a clemency order issued by Richard M. Nixon when he was President releasing Hoffa after he served 4½ years of a 13-year sentence for mail fraud and jury tampering.

The clemency order bars Hoffa from participating in union politics until 1980. Hoffa was unsuccessful in fighting the restriction in U.S. District Court, and the case is pending at the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Hoffa has argued that Mr. Nixon was acting beyond his powers by restricting a clemency order.

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

People Hoffa Truste

By CHARLES ASHMAN

Frank Fitzsimmons is a colorless individual. Once he and Jimmy Hoffa were friends. Jimmy trusted Fitz so much, in fact, that it was to him that he handed the reins of Teamster power when he went to the federal penitentiary at Lewisburg. And then, Fitz turned on Hoffa. Consequently Jimmy got ready to challenge Fitz for the Teamsters Union leadership.

Fitz had been told by many that the rank-and-file would vote for Hoffa if given a chance and the Teamsters war would have to reach a climax before the ballots were cast in 1976.

But there was a serious question about Hoffa's standing to be a candidate. Many of Jimmy's high-priced advisers had promised him some action before the election earlier this year in his home Local 299 in Detroit. But it never came. Hoffa had to settle for a compromise slate which kept his man Dave Johnson as president, retained the status quo and frustrated Frank Fitzsimmons's effort to have his son Richard take over the local.

Richard would have the number two position but Jimmy's people were in control. If all else failed, Hoffa believed his lifetime membership would enable Johnson to appoint him to a position so that he could be a delegate and candidate in 1976.

At least a half-dozen heads of other Teamsters locals from the Midwest to the East Coast had offered to step down and let Jimmy move in if necessary to help lay the groundwork for the international presidency.

Next year's election was getting close and Hoffa desperately needed help. The U.S. Court of Appeals seemed to be dragging its feet on a decision involving Hoffa's future and Jimmy wasn't optimistic about the outcome.

He told me he felt he would win in the White House with some help from Congress and an attorney general who realized the Teamsters or anybody else had a right to elect whomever they wanted.

For three weeks before Jimmy's disappearance, there was talk in Washington about the lack of negative response to President Ford's commutation of Dave Beck, another former Teamsters boss.

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NOT RECORDED
157 OCT 24 1975

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-6 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 8-8-75
Edition: Friday Latest
Author: Charles Ashman
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: HOFFEX

Character: EXTORTION
or
Classification: LA-9-5682*
Submitting Office: Los Angele

☐ Being Investigated

Fib-6-111

Now many observers believed the White House would act on the Hoffa case. Atty. Gen. Edward Levi is a former law professor and constitutional scholar. Hoffa was being told by lawyers close to Levi that he would never go along with the constitutionality of such a bizarre restriction on Jimmy's holding union office.

Everybody talked to Jimmy Hoffa but he listened to only a few. First there was Jimmy Jr., who was totally loyal, sensible and a good labor lawyer, besides.

Hoffa had spent a lifetime boasting about his son even while he pressured a Michigan football coach not to use Jimmy Jr. on his team because "the coach had a lot of players to get banged up but I've only got one son."

Jimmy Jr. was his dad's adviser, lawyer, neighbor and friend, but even he couldn't stop his dad from the occasional impetuous business deal or from loaning money to a friend from the old days who stayed loyal.

One day in his son's law office while I watched, Jimmy picked up the phone and dialed the White House to demand action from the president's adviser on paroles. Needless to say, Jimmy Jr. was again frustrated by his fathers action. But they were close and most of the time father listened to son.

In the union, there were only a few top officials whom Hoffa really trusted. He knew the pressures on those he had brought along now that they had to work with Fitzsimmons and he made it as comfortable as possible for them.

He was close to Ted Daley of New York and trusted Harold Gibbons. Gibbons had stood up all along and as a result Fitzsimmons had stripped him of most of his income and luxuries of his international vice presidency, including the jet that used to carry him to show business parties around the country.

Chucky O'Brien could be counted on. He was like another son to Jimmy. It was O'Brien who jumped Hoffa's would-be assassin after Jimmy was shot and police were digging around in the jury-tampering trial. It was O'Brien who Jimmy trusted to deliver the documents when the late Robert Kennedy finally won a subpoena fight in federal court over Teamsters Papers in Hoffa's possession. And it was O'Brien who drove Jimmy to the U.S. Marshals Office to surrender himself and begin a prison term. Hoffa insisted the family stay at home in Washington.

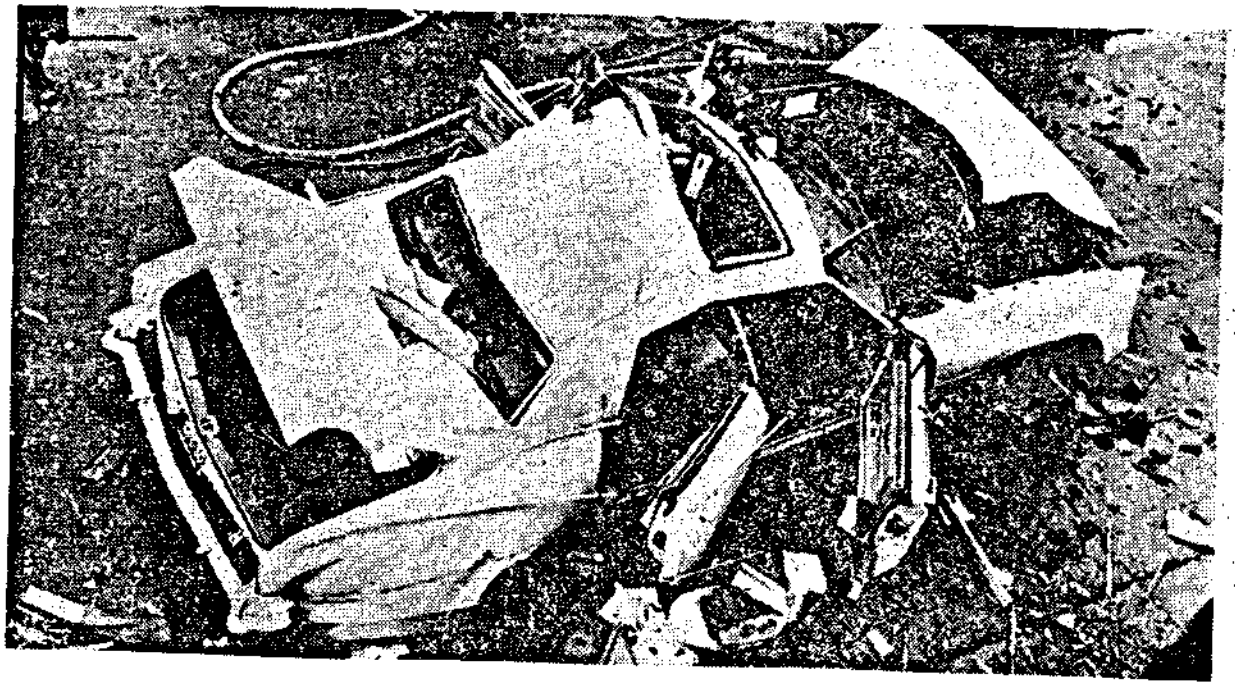
Unquestionably, there was another man whom Jimmy fully trusted and liked. Ed Lawrenson hadn't been around in Jimmy's heyday of power but in the past four years Ed had become Hoffa's closest political confidante. They talked a dozen times a week and sometimes more.

Hoffa had nurtured the National Association for Justice (NAJ) headed by Lawrenson and he kept office space in the NAJ suite. The NAJ was making real headway in penal reform and prisoners rights but Lawrenson had another job, too. He was Jimmy Hoffa's eyes and ears in the nation's capital. It was Ed who could be counted on to talk to the congressmen and find out who remembered past favors and would help Hoffa in a fight. It was Ed who could be counted on to recommend or shoot down an idea or a new law firm regardless of what anybody else said. If the NAJ had in its treasury the money spent by Jimmy in legal fees, the organization could survive for a decade.

Josephine Hoffa was not in good health and as always Jimmy felt his wife had to be shielded from as much as possible. They had come a long way since he met her as a teenager in a laundry workers picket line in Detroit. He adored her and she was scheduled to go into a Michigan hospital on Aug. 7. Anyone who knew Jimmy Hoffa immediately discounts any idea that he would voluntarily disappear without Jo knowing why and where, particularly just before her scheduled cataract surgery.



Charles O'Brien, center, foster-son of Hoffa and his lawyer James Burdick are questioned by reporters outside Teamsters headquarters in Detroit. O'Brien was questioned last week by FBI in connection with disappearance of Hoffa, now missing more than a week.



Bomb-destroyed Lincoln assigned by Teamsters Local 299 to Richard Fitzsimmons, vice president, is among latest of violent acts touching those connected with the local once headed by Hoffa.

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

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The Hoffas

Jimmy's kids: tough, strong-minded, self-confident

By DAVID L. GOOD
News Staff Writer

If there was ever anybody you'd expect to raise two tough kids, it would be James R. Hoffa.

The former Teamsters president, missing since July 30, always was known as an intensely determined man — even to the point of being combative — over his four decades as a public figure.

His two children, James P. and Mrs. Barbara Crancer, appear to be just about as strong-minded and self-confident as their father.

In daily interviews with the press, both have impressed friends and observers with their resiliency in an obviously difficult situation.

Both are regarded [illegible]s of strength" to their mother, who is su[illegible]m a heart ailment.

"They're tough kids," sa[illegible]ong-time acquaintance. "Barbara, especially, is tough and self-assured, like her father. Jimmy is cautious in what he says, since he's a lawyer. Barbara is more outspoken."

Young Hoffa, 34, is a partner in the Detroit law firm of Hoffa, Chodak and Robiner. He is married and has two sons.

Mrs. Crancer, 37, of St. Louis, is a former Redford Township school teacher who is married to a steel company salesman. They have one daughter.

Both of them are fiercely devoted to their father and have remained insistent that he still is alive.

At various times over the last week, Mrs. Crancer criticized the late involvement of the FBI in the case, at one time reportedly telephoning FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley and admonishing him:

"You used 2,000 agents to put my father into jail (where he served nearly five years for jury tampering, mail fraud and misuse of a union pension fund), and up to now have used only two agents to try to find him."

Until the current situation, Mrs. Crancer had become involved only once in commenting publicly on her father's controversial career.

In 1971 she released an emotional first-person article written in defense of Hoffa, his conduct and his ethics.

"I have only love and respect for my father, and a great feeling of pride for what he has accomplished, but it is all mixed with a tinge of sadness because of what he has had to endure," she wrote.

"I don't know of any other person who has been so publicly reviled over such a long period of time."

Her brother has been equally devoted to Hoffa, according to Murray J. Chodak, young Hoffa's law partner and an usher at his wedding in 1969.

"The Hoffas — father and son — had an unusually close and very deep relationship," he said.

"I've been deeply impressed with his (the elder Hoffa's) devotion not only to his son and daughter, but to his grandchildren."

Chodak said he saw "a certain similarity" between Hoffa and his son, both physically and in their personalities.

"Jimmy has a professionally determined mind," Chodak said. "He pursues cases in a tough, firm manner and is very thorough. And he happens to be an excellent lawyer, by the way."

He said young Hoffa has been conducting himself in the current situation "as a professional person would, despite his emotional involvement."

In their younger years, both Hoffa children distinguished themselves in school — in marked contrast to their father, who had to drop out at 14 to help support his widowed mother and family.

Mrs. Crancer was president of her senior class at Detroit's Cooley High School and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Albion College.

She married Robert E. Crancer, son of a steel company executive, in 1961 and now is a St. Louis homemaker.

Her brother was an all-state guard-linebacker for Cooley's football team, though he later dropped sports to concentrate on his studies at Michigan State University.

After earning a degree in economics, he graduated in 1966 from the University of Michigan Law School.

The next year, while working as a researcher for the State Senate, he sought — and almost won — a seat as a Democrat in the State House.

Despite endorsements from the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, Vice-President Hubert Humphrey and local labor organizations, he lost by 168 votes to Republican Anthony C. Licata.

Young Hoffa married the former Virginia Harris in 1969 and served for several years as Detroit regional attorney for the Teamsters. He was fired by the union last year, along with his mother, who had led the women's auxiliary of the union's political arm.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) 1D

THE DETROIT NEWS
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Date: AUGUST 8, 1975
Edition:
Author: DAVID L. GOOD
Editor: MARTIN S. HAYDEN
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: DETROIT

☐ Being Investigated

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167 OCT 7 1975



Jimmy Hoffa, former Teamsters Union chief, above, holds book on how to plan a parole during a House Judiciary Committee hearing in 1972. At the time he had recently been paroled from federal penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pa.



JAMES P. HOFFA



MRS. BARBARA CRANCER



—AP Wirephoto

FORMER TEAMSTER Union leader Jimmy Hoffa posed for this family portrait shortly after his release from prison in

0-20 (Rev. 8-5-74)

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A257
R A
HOFFA 8-9
1ST NIGHT LD A217
BY JEFFERY L. SHELER

DETROIT (UPI) -- FEDERAL AGENTS SATURDAY SEIZED A BLOOD-STAINED CAR BELONGING TO THE SON OF A REPUTED MAFIA FIGURE WHO FORMER TEAMSTER BOSS JAMES R. HOFFA SET OUT TO MEET THE DAY HE DISAPPEARED.

JOE GIACALONE, SON OF ANTHONY "TONY JACK" GIACALONE, REPORTEDLY TOLD FBI AGENTS THAT STAINS FOUND IN THE FRONT SEAT OF HIS CAR WERE FISH BLOOD. ALTHOUGH THE FBI WOULD NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY THE REPORT, IT WAS BELIEVED FBI AGENTS WERE ANALYZING THE STAINS AT A STATE POLICE CRIME LAB.

YOUNG GIACALONE'S NEIGHBORS AT A FASHIONABLE APARTMENT COMPLEX IN SUBURBAN ST. CLAIR SHORES REPORTED FOUR OR FIVE FBI AGENTS TOOK THE CAR FROM THE PARKING LOT EARLY SATURDAY MORNING. INVESTIGATORS HAD ASKED GIACALONE TO GIVE UP THE CAR VOLUNTARILY, BUT WHEN HE FLATLY REFUSED, AGENTS OBTAINED A FEDERAL WARRANT TO IMPOUND IT.

IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, IT WAS REPORTED SATURDAY THAT THE FALLEN LABOR CZAR MET WITH "TONY JACK" AND HIS SON AT HOFFA'S LAKE ORION HOME JULY 26 TO ARRANGE THE LUNCHEON MEETING HOFFA WAS HEADED FOR WHEN HE DISAPPEARED FOUR DAYS LATER.

THE NORTH AMERICAN NEWSPAPER ALLIANCE, IN A COPYRIGHTED STORY, QUOTED "SOURCES" AS SAYING THE GIACALONES TOLD HOFFA AT THE MEETING THAT FORMER TEAMSTER OFFICIAL ANTHONY "TONY PRO" PROVENZANO, A REPUTED FIGURE IN THE NEW JERSEY UNDERWORLD, WANTED TO "MAKE PEACE" WITH HOFFA, WHO WAS KNOWN TO BE PLOTTING A RETURN TO CONTROL OF THE MAMMOTH UNION.

THE NANA ACCOUNT SAID FBI OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON HAVE BEEN TOLD HOFFA'S MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE WAS LINKED TO AN ALLEGED ATTEMPT BY ORGANIZED CRIME TO TAKE CONTROL OF THE UNION'S EAST COAST OPERATIONS.

HOFFA'S SON, JAMES P. HOFFA, 33, WHEN ASKED IF THE LAKE ORION MEETING TOOK PLACE, REFUSED TO COMMENT. IT WAS THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE DAY YOUNG HOFFA REFUSED TO MEET WITH NEWSMEN OUTSIDE THE FAMILY'S PLACID SUMMER COTTAGE 40 MILES FROM DETROIT. HE RELAYED HIS "NO COMMENT" THROUGH JERRY MCDONALD, A BUSINESS AGENT OF TEAMSTERS LOCAL 299 AND A HOFFA FAMILY FRIEND.

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"MR. HOFFA SAYS THERE IS NOTHING NEW TO REPORT," MCDONALD TOLD NEWSMEN. "THERE'S NO SENSE DOING THE SAME THING OVER AND OVER AGAIN."

MEANWHILE, U.S. ATTORNEY RALPH GUY JR., SAID IT MAY TAKE A FEDERAL GRAND JURY TO GET THE 16-DAY-OLD INVESTIGATION OFF DEAD CENTER.

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58 AUG 25 1975 WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

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INSERT HOFFA DETROIT A224 AFTER 12TH PGH X X X MAKE IT."
YOUNG HOFFA, SPEAKING TO NEWSMEN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THREE DAYS, SAID THE FAMILY WAS "CONTINUING TO COOPERATE WITH ALL AUTHORITIES" INVESTIGATING THE DISAPPEARANCE AND THAT HE WAS "ENCOURAGED" BY DEVELOPMENTS.
"EACH PIECE OF INFORMATION IS PART OF THE PUZZLE WHICH COULD LEAD TO A SOLUTION OF THIS ABDUCTION OR WHATEVER IT IS," HOFFA SAID. HE SAID AUTHORITIES KNEW CONSIDERABLY MORE THAN EVEN JUST A FEW DAYS AGO, "BUT WE HAVE NO DEFINITE ANSWER FOR YOU."
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NIGHT LD
BY JEFFERY L. SHELER

DETROIT (UPI) -- SAMPLES OF BLOOD FOUND INSIDE A CAR BELONGING TO JOE GIACALONE, SON OF REPUTED MAFIA CHIEFTAIN ANTHONY "TONY JACK" GIACALONE, REPORTEDLY WERE TESTED SUNDAY BY FBI AGENTS PROBING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF FORMER TEAMSTERS BOSS JAMES R. HOFFA.

CHARLES "CHUCKIE" O'BRIEN, HOFFA'S FOSTER SON AND A KEY FIGURE IN THE 11-DAY-OLD INVESTIGATION, EARLIER TOLD INVESTIGATORS HE USED THE CAR TO DELIVER A 40-POUND FROZEN SALMON TO THE WIFE OF A DETROIT TEAMSTERS OFFICIAL THE DAY HOFFA DISAPPEARED, AND THAT FISH BLOOD HAD LEAKED FROM THE PACKAGE.

AN FBI SPOKESMAN IN WASHINGTON, THOUGH REFUSING TO CONFIRM THE BLOOD SAMPLES HAD BEEN FLOWN THERE FOR EXAMINATION, SAID IT "NORMALLY TAKES FROM 36 TO 48 HOURS" TO ANALYZE A STAIN TO DETERMINE ITS SOURCE AND CHEMICAL MAKEUP.

FBI OFFICIALS IN DETROIT SCHEDULED THEIR FIRST NEWS CONFERENCE ON THE INVESTIGATIONS FOR 2 P.M. MONDAY.

O'BRIEN, NOW HONEYMOONING IN WEST MEMPHIS, ARK., TOLD UPI THE FBI KNEW ABOUT THE BLOOD STAIN LAST WEDNESDAY WHEN HE SURFACED IN DETROIT FOR FOUR HOURS OF QUESTIONING. HE ACCUSED THE FBI OF "HARRASSING JOE" BY IMPOUNDING YOUNG GIACALONE'S 1975 MAROON MERCURY OVER THE WEEKEND.

"THE KID NEVER HAD A TICKET IN HIS LIFE," O'BRIEN SAID. "ALL THEY WOULD HAVE TO DO IS ASK HIM FOR THE CAR AND HE'D GIVE IT TO 'EM IN A MINUTE. THEY'RE JUST HARASSING JOE."

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GIACALONE'S FATHER, THE REPUTED KINGPIN OF DETROIT'S CRIME SYNDICATE, WAS ONE OF THREE MEN HOFFA REPORTEDLY SET OUT TO MEET AT A SWANK SUBURBAN RESTAURANT THE DAY HE DISAPPEARED.

O'BRIEN SAID "SOMEONE IN THE GOVERNMENT" WAS LEAKING INFORMATION ABOUT ANSWERS HE GAVE TO INVESTIGATORS AND MAKING HIM "LOOK LIKE AN IDIOT" BECAUSE THE FBI NOW IS INSISTING HE KEEP QUIET.

"I WAS SINCERE WITH THEM AND THEY WERE SINCERE WITH ME," O'BRIEN SAID. "THAT'S THE WAY I'VE ALWAYS BEEN. BUT NOW WITH ALL THIS INFORMATION FLYING AROUND IT PUTS ME IN A PAIR OF SCISSORS -- THEY'RE MAKING ME LOOK LIKE AN IDIOT -- BECAUSE I HAVE TO STAND THERE AND SAY 'NO COMMENT.'"

AN FBI SPOKESMAN IN DETROIT SAID THE NEWS CONFERENCE MONDAY WOULD "ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN PILING UP" SINCE HOFFA'S DISAPPEARANCE JULY 30. SO FAR, FBI OFFICIALS HAVE REFUSED TO COMMENT ON ANY ASPECT OF THE INVESTIGATION.

MEANWHILE, HOFFA'S AILING WIFE, JOSEPHINE, HIS SON, JAMES P. HOFFA, 31, AND HIS SISTER, MRS. BARBARA CRANCER, OF ST. LOUIS, MO., KEPT A VIGIL AT THE EMBATTLED TEAMSTER CZAR'S SUMMER HOME AT LAKE ORION, 40 MILES NORTHWEST OF DETROIT.

"WE'RE HOLDING UP ALL RIGHT," MRS. CRANCER SAID. "WE'RE A STRONG FAMILY. WE'VE GONE THROUGH A LOT. BUT WE'LL MAKE IT."

REPORTS DURING THE WEEKEND INDICATED "TONY JACK" GIACALONE CALLED THE LUNCHEON MEETING AT THE PLUSH MACHUS RED FOX RESTAURANT TO ALLOW HOFFA TO "MAKE PEACE" WITH REPUTED NEW JERSEY CRIME FIGURE AND FORMER TEAMSTER OFFICIAL ANTHONY "TONY PRO" PROVENZANO.

SOURCES CLOSE TO THE INVESTIGATION BELIEVE THE LUNCHEON MEETING WAS A "SET UP" TO GET HOFFA WHO WAS PLOTTING TO REGAIN CONTROL OVER THE 2.2 ~~MILLION~~ * MEMBER UNION AND PREVENT HIM FROM INTERFERING WITH AN ALLEGED MAFIA PLAN TO TAKE OVER THE UNION'S EAST COAST OPERATIONS.

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Seizure of Car Used by Hoffa's Foster Son Told

BY FRANCIS WARD
Times Staff Writer

DETROIT—The FBI Saturday seized a car that Charles L. (Chuckie) O'Brien, 41, James R. Hoffa's foster son and longtime confidant, had used on July 30, the day the former Teamsters president disappeared, a source close to the federal investigation disclosed.

The 1975 Mercury belonged to Joseph (Joey) Giacalone, son of reputed high-ranking Mafia figure Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, one of three men with whom Hoffa was to have met the afternoon he disappeared. O'Brien has admitted that he borrowed the car that day.

The vehicle was seized about 3 a.m. Saturday at Joseph Giacalone's apartment in suburban St. Clair Shores.

Bloodstains were found on the front seat of the car, the source said, and the FBI is flying a team of specialists to Detroit from its crime lab in Washington to determine if the stains are human blood.

O'Brien has told the FBI that the stains were from a salmon he delivered on July 30 to the home of Robert Holmes Sr., a Teamsters international vice president and highest-ranking Teamster officer in Michigan.

O'Brien said he had removed some of the blood from the car with a paper towel and had driven to Jax Car Wash, where he said he had asked attendants to "clean it up for me before it dried and started to stink."

But the manager of the car wash, Joe Spitz, said, "No way. No way did anybody come out and ask us to get blood off the seat of a car."

Spitz said the FBI had checked his records for that day and "there was no way we recorded a Mercury or anything like that."

Holmes could not be reached for comment, bur investigators have verified that O'Brien did deliver a fish to Holmes' house on July 30.

The FBI, which is using most of its 275 agents in Michigan on the Hoffa case, is investigating at least three major theories about motives that could have led to Hoffa's abduction:

—Fear among Detroit-area Mafia figures that Hoffa might have disclosed damaging information to a federal grand jury in a recent appearance.

—The bitter dispute with his former ally and friend, Frank E. Fitzsimmons, the current Teamsters international president, that has developed because of Hoffa's determined efforts to oust Fitzsimmons and retake the Teamsters' helm.

—The enmity that has developed between Hoffa and another former ally, Anthony (Tony) Provenzano,

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former New Jersey Teamsters boss, who served time with Hoffa in the Lewisburg, Pa., federal prison. Provenzano, it is believed, suspects that Hoffa may have given prison authorities information that either helped extend Provenzano's time in prison or caused him difficulty when there.

Investigators believe Provenzano threatened Hoffa at least once when he got out of prison.

Hoffa's son, James P. Hoffa, has told investigators that Provenzano ranks high among those who might want to do his father harm. However, one source says that Provenzano is not one of three men with whom Hoffa was to have met shortly before he dropped out of sight.

Federal investigators believe that the three men were Anthony Giacalone, his brother, William Vito, and Leonard Schultz, a Detroit labor consultant with long ties to the Teamsters as well as an extensive criminal record.

The Giacalone brothers have reputations as musclemen. Anthony Giacalone has been indicted for income tax evasion and on federal charges in connection with a kickback scheme to defraud a medical plan covering Teamsters members in Michigan.

In a meeting between Hoffa and the Giacalone brothers around the middle of July, one source said, Hoffa was asked—but refused to disclose—what union records federal investigators had subpoenaed in connection with the indictment.

It is not certain that Hoffa actually knew the answer, but his refusal to give the Giacalones the information is believed to have angered his longtime friends.

Investigators theorize that Anthony Giacalone may have suspected that Hoffa was bargaining with the Department of Justice for a favorable recommendation in connection with Hoffa's suit to remove legal restrictions barring him from union activity until March, 1980. The restriction was part of former President Richard M. Nixon's order commuting Hoffa's 13-year sentence in 1971. Hoffa served 4½ years for mail fraud and jury tampering.

Hoffa's appeal is before the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C., which is expected to rule on the case sometime soon.

However, Hoffa's lawyer, Leonard Boudin of New York, said earlier this week that the court would not rule as long as Hoffa was missing.

It was known to all of Hoffa's close friends and associates that his overriding passion since he got out of prison was to retake the Teamsters presidency. He was said to be optimistic about his chances for a favorable ruling by the appeals court.

However, an old friend, Arthur King, president of Teamsters Local 285 in Detroit, says Hoffa "was always optimistic when expecting a court ruling, regardless of how many adverse rulings had come down before."

Fitzsimmons was Hoffa's handpicked successor when Hoffa went to prison in 1966. Fitzsimmons had been a vice president and business agent of Hoffa's home local, 299 in Detroit, when Hoffa was president of the local. "Fitz," as he is called, later became an international vice president and was expected to be a Hoffa "stand-in" as Teamsters International president until Hoffa got out of prison.

However, once in office, Fitzsimmons grew to like the job and began to solidify his position, opposing any effort by Hoffa to retake the presidency.

King and other Teamsters sources say that Hoffa is still enormously popular with the Teamsters rank and file nationally. King says that if Hoffa got the restrictions on his union activity lifted and if he opposed Fitzsimmons at the Teamsters' 1976 national convention, "it would be a bitter battle, very bitter. I wouldn't predict who would win, but it would be very bitter."

King says he knows of no moves by either pro-Hoffa or pro-Fitzsimmons forces to line up support for either man in anticipation of a presidential contest next year.

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Fitz: I've No Idea Where Hoffa Is

Dallas, Aug. 9 (AP)—Teamsters President Frank Fitzsimmons denied today any knowledge of the whereabouts of former Teamsters boss Jimmy Hoffa, who has been missing since July 30.

"I have no idea where he is," Fitzsimmons said in an interview at the Canyon Creek Country Club golf course. "I couldn't guess."

Asked if he thought Hoffa was dead, Fitzsimmons said: "I don't want to comment on that. But he's been missing, what, 10 or 11 ddays now."

Hoffa vanished in Detroit and has not been publicly heard from since.

"No Power Struggle

Fitzsimmons said there is "no power struggle in the union. How could there be? Hoffa isn't eligible to run for office anyway because of the restrictions on him ... You can be goddamned sure I'm going to be a candidate for president of this union."

Fitzsimmons said that he had been here for three day of discussions with regional Teamsters officials regarding relocations of th eunion's southern regional offices from Dallas to Miami, Fla.

Fitzsimmons denied reports of underworld involvement in Hoffa's disappearance.

"What would the underworld have to do with this?" he asked.

No Nixon Collusion

"Jimmy and I have been friends for 40 years. We've had our differences on philosophy, but there'sbeennothingperson- b ut
but there's been nothing personal. No falling out. If we had, then, well, it would be different '..' Fitzsimmons said.

"I've been in touch in Jimmy and Barbara (Hoffa's children). No one from the FBI or anybody like that has contacted me. Not one of them has contacted me," he said.

The Teamster leader denied that there had been any collusion between Hoffa and President Nixon when Nixon obtained Hoffa's release from prison. "That's nonsense. Nixon was our best President. Ivoted for him. There was nothing under the table. I don't believe in being down on a guy just because somebody took a swipe at him. He was my friend, still is a good friend," Fitzsimmons said.

Fitzsimmons smiled, shook hands and suddenly broke off the interview, driving away alone in his golf cart. Minutes later he appeared in the club dining room where he loaded luch plate, grabbed a beer and joined several men.



Frank Fitzsimmons
Denies power struggle

The Washington Post _____
Washington Star-News _____
Daily News (New York) P-8
The New York Times _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
The Los Angeles Times _____

Date AUG 10 1975

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FBI Seizes Car in Hoffa Mystery

Detroit, Aug. 9 (AP)—FBI agents investigating the James R. Hoffa mystery made a pre-dawn seizure of an auto belonging to the son of a reputed Mafia kingpin today. Sources said the FBI sought to examine blood-stains on the car seat.

The car was driven the day Hoffa dropped from sight by Hoffa's foster son, Charles L. (Chuckie) O'Brien, who is a key figure in federal efforts to find the missing former Teamsters president.

Sources said O'Brien told the FBI he borrowed the car and was delivering fish to the home of a Teamsters official. Westinghouse Broadcasting said O'Brien told the FBI the stains on the car seat were dried fish blood.

Car at Crime Lab

The FBI refused to confirm or deny that it had the car, but sources close to the investigation confirmed that the FBI grabbed the auto and took it to a crime laboratory for analysis.

Several residents of an apartment complex told reporters that a group of FBI agents showed up at about 3 a.m. and took possession of a 1975 maroon car belonging to Joe Giacalone. He is the son of Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, the alleged Mafia figure whom Hoffa said he was expecting to meet just before he vanished July 30.

O'Brien reportedly has told the FBI he was in the area where Hoffa was last seen at the time Hoffa vanished. He said he was driving the younger Giacalone's car.

Allegiance Shift Reported

He told reporters he was delivering a frozen salmon to the home of Robert Holmes, a Teamsters vice president who heads Local 337 in Detroit.

O'Brien, 41, reared from boyhood by Hoffa, is an international Teamsters organizer. Sources close to the investigation said recently that O'Brien has undergone a shift of allegiance from Hoffa to Hoffa's arch-rival, Teamsters President Frank Fitzsimmons.

O'Brien was questioned for 3½ hours Wednesday by the FBI.

Subpoenas Weighed

Earlier O'Brien had told reporters he was at the Southfield Athletic Club with Giacalone at the time was Hoffa last seen. O'Brien later said that was incorrect, and that he was driving Joe Giacalone's car.

The Justice Department was considering today whether to subpoena witnesses before a grand jury in a search for clues to Hoffa's disappearance.

Sources said Anthony Giacalone has refused to cooperate with the FBI in its investigation, and that Giacalone told agents to "get a subpoena" if they expected to talk to him.

U.S. Attorney Ralph Guy, who is considering gearing up grand jury proceedings in the Hoffa case, authoirzed the first related subpoina yesterday seeking a record of phone calls made from the Hoffa home.

Several investigators have said privately they believe Hoffa was kidnaped or killed to prevent his expected attempt to regain the Teamsters Union presidency next year. The theory is not backed up by known evidence, the investigators said.

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Washington Star-News
Daily News (New York) P-2
The New York Times
The Wall Street Journal
The National Observer
The Los Angeles Times

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Blood in Car Not Hoffa's, Tests Reportedly Show

DETROIT (AP)—A possible lead in the James R. Hoffa disappearance evaporated Sunday when FBI tests showed that a stain on a car seat was not human blood, a source close to the investigation said.

The stain was in an automobile that had been driven the day of Hoffa's disappearance by his foster son, Charles (Chuckie) O'Brien, who said it had been caused by blood from a thawing 40-pound salmon he delivered that day to Teamsters Vice President Robert Holmes.

The FBI seized the car early Saturday and later ran a chemical analysis on the car seat. The source did not say whether the stain had been caused by salmon blood.

Authorities continued to work on the theory that Hoffa, president of the 2.2-million-member Teamsters Union from 1957 to 1971, had been kidnaped or killed to prevent him from making a comeback.

According to the theory favored by investigators, those responsible are either Teamsters or Mafia members who were concerned that Hoffa would unseat Frank E. Fitzsimmons from the union's top post.

O'Brien, 41, told FBI agents he had driven a car borrowed from the son of a reputed Mafia figure near where Hoffa was last seen 12 days ago and at about the time that Hoffa disappeared. The owner is Joe Giacalone, son of Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, one of the men Hoffa had told his family he was to meet for lunch on the day he vanished.

The source said O'Brien continued to be a focus of the FBI inquiry. Sources say O'Brien had a falling-out with his foster father some time ago and aligned himself with Fitzsimmons.

The FBI in Detroit would not officially confirm the results of the bloodstain tests. But the FBI scheduled its first news conference in several days for this afternoon.

When told of the FBI's reported findings, O'Brien said, "That's pretty good." But he said he would withhold further comment until the bloodstain analysis had been announced officially.

O'Brien's story got further support when Seattle fish dealer Al Halela said he had shipped a 40-pound frozen salmon to Holmes two weeks ago. The fish arrived the day Hoffa was last seen.

Hoffa's son, James P. Hoffa, talked briefly to reporters at his father's lakeside home Sunday. "We are again running down many more leads which are coming in from all over the country," he said.

"Each piece is part of a puzzle which might lead to a solution of the abduction, or whatever it is. We're encouraged by some of the information. We know a lot more than we did two days ago. We hope something will be breaking soon."

Meanwhile, Fitzsimmons said he had no information regarding Hoffa's disappearance.

"I have no idea where he is," Fitzsimmons said in his first public remarks since Hoffa vanished. "I know nothing about what has happened to him."

Fitzsimmons was in Dallas over the weekend on union business and was found by reporters on the 18th hole of the Canyon Creek Country Club.

"I have talked to Barbara and Jimmy (Hoffa's daughter and son) but I haven't been contacted by anyone else. In the bottom of my heart I have the deepest sympathy for the family," he said.

Hoffa's friendship with Fitzsimmons spanned nearly 35 years but dissolved in bitterness almost overnight several years ago when Hoffa prepared to fight for Fitzsimmons' job.



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The New York Times
The Wall Street Journal
The National Observer
The Los Angeles Times PFI P/

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VIGIL—Josephine Hoffa, right, wife of missing man, stands on balcony of the family home in Lake Orion, Mich., as her daughter, Barbara Crancer, 37, signs for mail from postman Clinton Bresett.

AP Wirephoto

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Hoffa Family Admits There's Some Bad News

The Detroit News

The family of James R. Hoffa has confirmed that an intensive nationwide police investigation into the 11-day-old disappearance of the former Teamsters leader has produced some bad news.

"We know an awful lot more than we did even two days ago," said Hoffa's son, Detroit attorney James P. Hoffa. "We're encouraged by some of the information."

Young Hoffa declined to reveal what had been learned but said the FBI is "again running down many more leads which are coming in from around the country, some good, some bad."

HIS REMARKS were made yesterday at a brief meeting with reporters, his first since Thursday at his parent's home in Orion Township.

"There is no definitive answer," young Hoffa said. "We'll have to wait and let the authorities take their course."

A federal source, meanwhile, said officials have ruled out a theory that stains found in a car used by a Hoffa associate on the day Hoffa disappeared, July 30, were human blood.

The source said that conclusion was reached after analyses by FBI chemists in Washington of scrapings taken from the car which belongs to Joseph Giacalone of St. Clair Shores, just north of Detroit.

FBI officials in Detroit late yesterday refused to comment on results of the laboratory test.

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FEDERAL AGENTS using a search warrant seized the car from Giacalone's apartment parking lot Saturday morning and sent specimens of materials, fibers and blood flakes to Washington.

Giacalone is the son of Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, who was one of three men Hoffa's family and friends said he believed he was to meet at a Bloomfield Township restaurant on the day he disappeared. The other two were New Jersey Teamster's leader Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano, and Detroit labor consultant Leonard Schultz.

All three have denied setting the meeting or seeing Hoffa on that day.

Young Giacalone's car had been driven by Charles (Chuckie) O'Brien the day Hoffa vanished from the parking lot of a restaurant.

O'Brien, Hoffa's foster son and former bodyguard, said he told the FBI last Wednesday the blood in the Giacalone car came from a 16-pound salmon he was delivering to the home of Teamster Local 337 President Robert Holmes Sr., who was out of town at the time.

THE FISH, reportedly a gift to Holmes from a West Coast Teamster's official, had been delivered packed



The Washington Post
Washington Star-News AB
Daily News (New York)
The New York Times
The Wall Street Journal
The National Observer
The Los Angeles Times

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in ice to Local 337 headquarters in Detroit.

"I told the FBI all I know last week," O'Brien said. "They're just harassing Joe (Giacalone). He's never had a ticket in all his life. All they had to do was ask him and he would have given them the car in a minute."

Despite his close relationship with the missing union boss, or perhaps because of it, O'Brien is believed by the Hoffa family to be closely linked to the Hoffa disappearance.

"If this is somehow involved with the mob, would they use someone like O'Brien as a go-between?" a federal source responded to a query.

"IT ISN'T very likely, and we thought from the start that the blood stains in young Giacalone's car couldn't be Jimmy's. It would just defy belief."

The Hoffa family continued to maintain their vigil at the Hoffa Orion Township lakefront home yesterday while a stream of sightseers drove past.

Meanwhile, in Seattle the manager of Pacific Fish Co.'s retail market told the Assosciated Press that he shipped the salmon to Detroit.

AL HALELA said he shipped the salmon at the end of July to Holmes. He said the fish was purchased by Arnie Weinmeister, president of Teamsters Joint Council 28 in Seattle.

Records of Airborne Freight Corp., which handled the shipment, show the fish was sent to Holmes on July 28 and arrived at the Teamsters headquarters on July 30.

0-19 (Rev. 5-5-75)

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The Hoffa background

Whatever the truth behind the disappearance of James R. Hoffa, the event has drawn renewed attention to the continuing problems of corruption and violence in the nation's largest labor union. The Hoffa mystery, because of the directions in which official inquiries and unofficial speculation have naturally led, could be a useful reminder that the cleanup of the huge International Brotherhood of Teamsters is an unfinished task.

The union's strife-ridden affairs are as troubling as ever, 18 years after the sensational McClellan Committee hearings on crime in the labor field and the Teamsters' expulsion from the AFL-CIO for ethical reasons, and 16 years after the tortuous congressional passage of the Landrum-Griffin Act. This last comprehensive piece of federal labor legislation was designed largely to secure the rights of union members from predatory leaders, and was inspired in significant measure by Teamster abuses. After the reform push of the late 1950s, Hoffa became the second Teamster president in a row to go to prison, in his case for jury-tampering and pension-fund fraud. He gave up his union post, to the supposed caretakership of incumbent President Frank Fitzsimmons, but under terms of his 1971 parole Hoffa was forbidden from resuming his union activity until 1980. He was planning a further legal challenge of this exclusion and was still hoping for a comeback to union power when he slipped from sight — possibly the victim of foul play — on July 30.

It is not known yet, and it may never be known with certainty, whether Hoffa's disappearance had anything to do with the perennial power struggles in the union and its Detroit-area locals, or with Hoffa's and the Teamsters' long history of gangland connections. It should be remembered, too, that there are irreproachable Teamster officials around the country, and

The Washington Post ____
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Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

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that many locals operate honestly and with due regard for the interests of members, employers and the public. The 2.2-million-member union has prospered in part through sound trade-union practices and a reputation for effective bargaining rather than strong-arm methods.

The Teamsters, in fact, enjoyed a highly publicized romance with the former Nixon administration during which it was easy to forget that Republican officeholders traditionally take a jaundiced view of freewheeling unionists. The Teamsters were an important source of hard-hat support for Nixon's Indochina policies. It was Nixon who paroled Hoffa. The Teamsters then backed Nixon's re-election. In August 1972, a Teamster cocktail party drew six members of the Nixon Cabinet, including then-Attorney General Kleindienst.

But at a less exalted level, Teamster affairs have been marked by the same thuggery, misuse and dubious investment of millions of dollars of the members' money and ubiquitous underworld connections that produced the revelations of almost two decades ago. Recent investigations involve the same Central States pension fund that Hoffa was convicted of looting. Beatings, bombings and shootings have characterized recent union feuding in Detroit and environs.

Whether or not the new investigation is successful in determining what happened to the former Teamster chief and, if crime was involved, who was responsible, the fresh airing of questionable doings in and on the fringes of the union should bring cleansing benefits — at least for a while. Prosecutors should be encouraged to pursue evidence of malpractice. And there should be a worthwhile lesson about why the reform effort of the 1950s in the end produced so little reform.

HOFFEX

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Washington Star-News
8/19/75, Page B-10

Mr. [redacted]

Mr. [redacted]

Hoffa, the Teamsters and the Mob

By Wallace Turner
New York Times News Service

CHICAGO — The disappearance of James R. Hoffa on July 30, many investigators believe, may have its roots in the alliances Hoffa forged with organized crime a quarter century ago in his drive for control of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

Analysis of the records of past investigations, together with background interviews with officials across the Middle West, where Hoffa rose to power, show that he brought flocks of hoodlums into the Teamsters, used them to get control and then was stuck with their influence. They are still there.

When Hoffa came out of jail in 1971, thirsting to resume his control of the union but barred by conditions of his parole, one device he used to try to undermine his successor, Frank E. Fitzsimmons, was the allegation that controlling positions in the union were filled with racketeers and convicted criminals.

Hoffa said he would change that if he supplanted Fitzsimmons, whom a Teamster wit once described as "that fellow Jimmy used to strike matches on."

JUST AS Hoffa conferred power on Fitzsimmons as stand-in president of the Teamsters when Hoffa was in jail so did he build up the influence of organized crime figures for his own use, a Senate inquiry has shown.

Fitzsimmons resisted relinquishing union control to Hoffa, and one of the investigative theories is that organized crime figures in the union no longer needed Hoffa and killed him for "rocking the boat" in his attempt to recapture control.

Eighteen years ago a Senate investigation headed by Sen. John L. McClellan, D-Ark., found that "there was overwhelming evidence of infiltration of this union by racketeers and hoodlums," and that Hoffa "pushed his way to the presidency of the Teamsters International with their active support and assistance."

The beginnings of the relationship between Hoffa and organized crime are lost in time. But as far back as 1949, according to the Senate Labor Rackets Committee, Hoffa had underworld ties.

Laundry owners in Detroit that year were faced with a strike, the committee found. They went to one of their number, Morris B. Dalitz, who besides owning a laundry interest, was a prominent member of the criminal underworld in Cleveland and Detroit from the 1920s until 1940.

The owners promised to pay $17,500 to prevent the strike, and Hoffa then entered the bargaining sessions to tell the negotiator for the laundry workers that there could be no strike.

The committee could not trace the money to Hoffa, and he denied that he had received it, although it was not contested that he helped the laundry owners avoid a strike.

The years passed and Dalitz became a major operator in the Las Vegas gambling casino industry. He sold out in Nevada in 1966 and became a partner in the development of Rancho La Costa, a real estate promotion in San Diego County, Calif.

BY THEN Hoffa was in firm control of all aspects of the Teamsters union. Money began to flow to La Costa in a golden stream from the union's pension funds in the Central, Southeastern and Southwestern states. Upwards of $45-million has gone into the development.

Last March, Penthouse magazine printed an article about La Costa and its residents, visitors and promotors. Dalitz, his three partners and the five corporations they established to operate La Costa sued the magazine, its editors and the two authors.

The complaint, filed in Los Angeles Superior Court, said the magazine had falsely charged that La Costa was frequented by mobsters, that it had been founded by a syndicate, that it was controlled by the Mob or that it harbored a hoard of underworld figures who were under surveillance by law enforcement officials. The suit asks $70 million damages, and pretrial depositions now are being taken.

The connection with Dalitz raises echoes of the infamous Detroit Purple Gang, with which Hoffa had dealings when he was an emerging labor figure in Detroit. His involvement with New York labor racketeers came about when he started to reach for national power.

John Dioguardi also known as "Johnny Dio," became Hoffa's tool in Hoffa's attempt to gain power in the New York area Teamster hierarchy.

Dioguardi, born in New York in 1914, was the nephew of James Plumeri who was the notorious "Jimmy Doyle," a labor racketeer and thug.

Dioguardi served a 3-to-5 year sentence at Sing Sing penitentiary on a 1937 charge of extortion. In the 1950s he got into the labor racketeering field as the proprietor of a local of the United Auto Workers affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. The local had split from the Walter Reuther-led UAW affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations, which had not merged with the AFL. Anthony Corallo, known as "Tony Ducks," was allied with Dioguardi, as was Anthony Doria.

These UAW-AFL locals, staffed by former convicts as business agents, specialized in extortion and sweetheart contracts. The Senate investigation showed that among 40 men Dioguardi brought into the labor movement, there were 77 convictions for crimes that included theft, narcotics, forgery, possession of stolen mail, robbery and accessory to murder.

By 1954 Dioguardi [illegible] ed out of the UAW-AFL was friendly with Hoffa, who was looking for support in New York. Pressed by the late [redacted] F. Kennedy, then chief counsel of the Senate Rackets Committee,

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HOFFA pleaded bad memory so often that the late Sen. Irving Ives, R-N.Y., called it "the best forgettery" he had ever seen. One thing Hoffa could not remember was whether he had put recorders in the pockets of grand jury witnesses so he would know what they had testified to, beyond having their assurances that they had protected him.

Dave Beck of Seattle was then the Teamster president. The union was scheduled to hold elections in the fall of 1957, and Hoffa wanted to be ready in case something happened — as it did — to take Beck out of the running. The Senate committee's disclosures about Beck led to his conviction of tax fraud, a federal prison term and retirement.

Seven New York locals run by the Dioguardi group had been created, four of them staffed with the officers from the UAW-AFL. The other three were staffed with Hoffa supporters from Teamster locals.

Among the officers who moved from the UAW-AFL locals to the Teamsters was Harry Davidoff, whose convictions include burglary and attempted extortion.

Davidoff's association with the Teamsters has lasted into the 1970s. He and another man controlled a trucking association that dominated freight traffic in and out of New York's Kennedy International Airport. Life magazine reported in 1971 that Dioguardi was able to intercede with Hoffa's successor, Fitzsimmons, to protect Davidoff's position in a Teamster local.

In the beginning of Dioguardi's move into the labor field, he got important help from Paul Dorfman, head of the waste handlers union in Chicago. Dorfman had taken over the local after its previous leader was shot.

One of the officials of the previous administration of the local was Jack Ruby, who later went to Dallas where he ran a nightclub featuring strippers and got to know so many policemen that they permitted him to move freely into headquarters on Nov. 24, 1963, when he whipped out a gun and killed Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President Kennedy.

When the authorities examined Ruby's long-distance telephone records, they found he had been in close contact with many of the top Teamster officials and their retinue, who, when interviewed, said that the nightclub operator had asked them for help with his labor problems.

PAUL Dorfman's son, Allen, is another of Hoffa's ties to the underworld. Many observers of the Teamsters see Allen Dorfman as one of the transitional figures between the continual violence of labor rackets of the earlier days and the smoother but financially more remunerative rackets of today.

The Central States pension fund looms large in these matters.

Hoffa ran the fund with an iron hand until he went to jail. He set out in the early 1960s to use the money to make the Teamsters more powerful. For example, if the union wanted to influence a politically powerful banker, the fund could deposit $5 million in his bank.

This practice, which was legal, soon gave way to loans to those with influence, and that led to kickbacks, which led to the creation of kickback rings, which led to selecting borrowers for the size of their payments of bribes rather than for the loans' value to the union or for the collateral offered.

Hoffa himself was convicted as a part of a ring that had collected more than $1 million in kickbacks from about $20 million in loans from the fund.

Before he went to prison, Hoffa arranged for his old friend, Fitzsimmons, to be "general vice president," which meant Fitzsimmons was to be in charge of the fund. He also arranged to have Allen Dorfman named special consultant to the pension fund trustees. Dorfman lasted until 1972, when he was convicted of taking a $55,000 kickback for arranging a loan.

Organized crime involvement in the Teamsters went beyond the pension fund, according to law enforcement sources. In Kansas City, for example, the union was pictured by competent confidential sources as riddled with racketeering influence. One observer said that some truck drivers spent all their time making their book-making rounds and none on deliveries for their intimidated employers.

IN INTERVIEWS about Hoffa's involvement with organized crime, several official sources said there was a vague report from some of Hoffa's associates several months ago that he might be willing to give evidence to the government if that would help him return to the union presidency.

The same sources said, however, that nothing had come from these reported overtures from Hoffa aides and that it was not clear even whether Hoffa himself had known and approved of what allegedly had been said to federal officials.

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Investigators Link Hoffa's Disappearance to His Early Alliance With Organized Crime

By WALLACE TURNER
Special to The New York Times

CHICAGO, Aug. 18—The disappearance of James R. Hoffa on July 30, many investigators believe, may have its roots in the alliances Mr. Hoffa forged with organized crime a quarter century ago in his drive for control of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

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When Mr. Hoffa came out of jail in 1971, thirsting to resume his control of the union but barred by conditions of his parole, one device he used to try to undermine his successor, Frank E. Fitzsimmons, was the allegation that controlling positions in the union were filled with racketeers and convicted criminals.

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Hoffa Used Criminals

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Mr. Fitzsimmons resisted relinquishing union control to Mr. Hoffa, and one of the investigative theories is that organized crime figures in the union no longer needed Mr. Hoffa and killed him for "rocking the boat" in his attempt to recapture control.

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The years passed and Mr. Dalitz became a major operator in the Las Vegas gambling casino industry. He sold out in Nevada in 1966 and became a partner in the development of Rancho La Costa, a real estate promotion in San Diego County, Calif.

By then Mr. Hoffa was in firm control of all aspects of the teamsters union. Money began to flow to La Costa in a golden stream from the union's pension funds in the Central, Southeastern and Southwestern states. Upwards of $45-million has gone into the development.

Once lent to La Costa, is seen in claims filed last year in United States Tax Court by the Internal Revenue Service against Mr. Dalitz and his three partners.

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Washington Star-News ___
Daily News (New York) ___
The New York Times P-30
The Wall Street Journal ___
The National Observer ___
The Los Angeles Times ___

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I.R.S. Accuses Dalitz

The service alleged that the Dalitz group inflated by $125,000 the price it had charged the La Costa Land Company, which it controlled, when their partnership had sold a piece of property to it. In effect, $125,000 in pension fund money seemed to pass through La Costa Land Company to Mr. Dalitz and friends. The Dalitz gourp has contested the I.R.S. assessment.

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Several investigators interviewed by The New York Times believe that Mr. Fitzsimmons does not have the control of the pension fund that Mr. Hoffa had.

Organized crime involvement in the teamsters went beyond the pension fund, according to law enforcement sources. In Kansas City, for example the union was pictured by competent confidential sources as riddled with racketeering influence. One observer said that some truck drivers spent all their time making their bookmaking rounds and none on deliveries for their intimidated employers.

Kansas City Theft Ring

Thefts from interstate shipments in Kansas City are said by officials to be extremely high. Confidential sources said that law-enforcement officials were particularly concerned about thefts of guns from interstate shipments. Members of theft rings are believed to have infiltrated freight companies where they forecast the arrival of cargo the gangs want to loot.

The teamsters in Kansas City have a history of violence, and several leaders have been convicted of criminal conduct. Roy Lee Williams, now in his 50's, is an international union vice president and one of the eight union members on the pension fund board of trustees.

He twice has been acquitted of charges of embezzlemen of union funds. Floyd Hayes, Mr. Williams's predecessor as the chief teamster officer in Kansas City, was convicted of such charges in 1964 in a trial in which Mr. Williams was acquitted.

While Mr. Hayes was awaiting sentence he became a Government informer. Fearful for his life, he rigged his car so it could be started from a distance with an electronic signal. As she stood outside the car on the night of June 11, 1964, Mr. Hayes was shot down by a shotgun blast by a masked man who then stood over him and fired again.

Two witnesses, under hypnosis, gave descriptions of Mr. Hayes's killers that fit two known professional gangland killers. No other evidence existed and no attempt was made to bring the men described to trial.

Mr. Williams succeeded to full control of the teamsters in the area. In 1957, when Mr. Hoffa was elected president of the Teamsters, Mr. Williams was chief of the convention credentials committee. The Senate Labor Rackets Committee has estimated that more than half the delegates permitted to vote were elected in violation of union rules.

The government suffered dismissal of its 1974 charge of keeping false union records against Mr. Williams rather than submit to a court order to turn over the grand jury transcript to the defense. In its refusal to comply, the Government cited the murders of Floyd Hayes and Sol Landie, the latter a witness in an investigation of Nicholas Civella, front figure for the Mafia in Kansas City.

"The United States has an inescapable duty to do everything within its power to prevent another Sol Landie or Floyd Hayes tragedy," the Government said in a written plea to the court.

Pension Fund Tainted

In a cryptic interview in Chicago, Matt Lydon, an Assistant United States Attorney, said that the taint of organized crime ran through pension fund transactions involving millions of dollars in cases he had prosecuted.

"It is imperative that a task force [of investigators and prosecutors] be set up to deal with the affairs of the pension fund," Mr. Lydon said.

In other interviews about Mr. Hoffa's involvement with organized crime, several official sources said there was a vague report from some of Mr. Hoffa's associates several months ago that he might be willing to give evidence to the Government if that would help him return to the union presidency. The same sources said, however, that nothing had come from these reported overtures from Hoffa aides and that it was not clear even whether Mr. Hoffa himself had known and approved of what allegedly had been said to Federal officials.

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Hoffa Family Is Mailed An Old Photo of Jimmy

TITLE: HOFFEX

Detroit, Aug. 19 (Combined Dispatches) — United Press International received a photograph of James R. Hoffa in the mail today, but the son of the missing former Teamsters chief, who received a similar photo dismissed the incident as "a cruel hoax."

The color snapshot showed Hoffa standing behind a man in a wheelchair at the rear of an automobile. The picture arrived at the Detroit bureau of UPI in an envelope mailed Sunday from OOrland, Fla. It contained no message.

In Orlando, attorney Ed Kirkland said today that he believed the second man in the picture was C. Monroe Lerman, an Orlando businessman who is confined to a wheelchair.

Met Before July 30

Kirkland said that Lerman met with Hoffa some time before Hoffa disappeared on July 30 to discuss formation of a national union for hanicapped persons. Florida teamsters officials said that Hoffa was in Orlando on April 12 to make a speech on prison reform.

There was no indication as to the identity of the person who mailed the picture.

Hoffa's son, attorney James P. Hoffa, said that he received the picture today, and that it was mailed in the same way as the photo sent to UPI.

An "Old Picture"

"I think it was strictly an old picture and why anyone would want to do this to our family is beyond me," Hoffa said. "I think they mailed this picture to people all over the country, but I have no idea why they did it."

Hoffa, 62, disappeared after telling his family that he planned to meet Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, a reputed Mafia figure, and two other men at lunch at a restaurant in suburban Bloomfield Township. Giacalone and the others have denied that they arranged the meeting.



UPI photo

Photo showing Jimmy Hoffa pushing man in wheelchair was received by United Press International's office in Detroit.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) P. 28
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date AUG 20 1975

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John Herling

Mob Relations—

Know Your Enemies

Jimmy Hoffa used to say that the mob could make or break you. Jimmy took no chances. He always played with the mob. Theirs was a mutual assistance pact, sealed often in other people's blood and money. Of course, Jimmy was not the only one that operated on that philosophy. Sometimes, directly, as he did, other times through interlocking agents or relationships which brought with them fear, the threat of violent retaliation or friendly accommodation.

But always the key was power. As Aristotle once observed, friendship is possible only among equals. When Jimmy was Teamsters president, he could command the respect of the mob and it could rely on him for multi-million dollar favors out of Teamsters pension funds. When Jimmy finally went to prison and was no longer president of the Teamsters, he became an irksome character who was rocking what had become a perfectly satisfactory friendship between his successor and one-time henchman, Frank Fitzsimmons, and some of the same criminal characters who were Jimmy's pals.

Mr. Herling writes frequently on labor topics for these pages.

Last November, Hoffa explained in an hour-long documentary over the ABC network, in which I participated, that "you develop a relationship with them (hoodlums), to where you don't interfere with them and they don't interfere with your business. We make it our business, and a man who is head of a union is a fool if he doesn't, to know who are your potential enemies." Famous last words.

The plain fact is that Mr. Fitzsimmons is now in a position to implement Hoffa's rule for survival as a Teamsters Union president. Jimmy was trying to claw his way back to replace Fitzsimmons, by legal hook or common crook, and he has now slipped away from us to places, thus far, unknown.

Sometimes unions are lucky to disengage from entanglements, as witness the case of the United Steelworkers, when David McDonald was president until 1965. Starting at least 10 years before that, he had developed a relationship, among others, with Robert A. Maheu, later a top aide to Howard Hughes. Maheu has just testified before Sen. Frank Church's committee that he helped arrange, through his CIA-Mafia connections, for a "contract" to kill Fidel Castro, with the mobsters John Rosselli and Sam Giancana, the latter murdered in gangland style in Chicago a few weeks ago.

But what did not come out, perhaps it was not relevant to this committee's immediate task, was Mr. Maheu's association with Mr. McDonald in a different connection.

In the middle 1950s, feeling politically insecure, Mr. McDonald had set up, under the direction of his then vice president, Howard Hague, a "ministry of fear" directed against the union staff, whose loyalty he doubted. Maheu and his associates would stalk around the union offices, interview the staff, photograph them, ask questions, take notes, and generally scare the hell out of them. Telephones were tapped, including the home phone of I. W. Abel, then the union secretary-treasurer. Maheu was an ex-FBI man, (his CIA connection was not even thought about, but his professional acquaintance with the mobsters was talked about) and he brought with him an aura of authority and a threat of retaliation. He was an unusual phenomenon in the life of this union. For McDonald, he was a security blanket, but a misery for most of the union staff.

Finally Mr. Abel wearied of all this and challenged Mr. McDonald for the presidency in a regular union election. Maheu and his associates were brought in to handle McDonald's "dirty tricks" department. At one time, returning

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unexpectedly to his hotel, Abel judged that his room had been "checked out" by either Maheu himself or a Maheu hand. Apparently leaving in a hurry, the operative had dropped an airplane ticket envelope with "Maheu" marked on it.

During that campaign, the McDonald headquarters piled up thousands of dollars in debts for Maheu's services, for which Maheu began demanding payment forthwith. When that election of 10 years ago was completed, McDonald worked desperately to challenge Abel's victory. Again McDonald got Maheu and his associates to plan a program of investigation in key union locals where Maheu might have had rewarding contacts. This was an expensive project and by that time Mr. McDonald no longer had access to large sums of union cash. So the latest of his Maheu operations had to be dropped.

There is, of course, a difference in the situations involving these two unions. In the case of the Steelworkers Union, a new leadership was emboldened to swerve from a path, not of its making, which might have led to disaster, for the organization and its membership. In the case of the Teamsters Union, it is still deeply enmeshed in its mob relations.

A-15



United Press International

Jimmy Hoffa testifies before the Senate Labor Rackets Committee in 1959.

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Justice May Probe Teamsters Fund

By Orr Kelly
Washington Star Staff Writer

The federal government is slowly gearing up for a possible major investigation of the scandal-ridden $1 billion Teamsters union pension fund.

But Justice Department sources said that such an investigation — if it comes — will be separate from the current inquiry into the disappearance of former Teamster president James R. Hoffa.

A federal grand jury in Detroit will begin hearings into the Hoffa disappearance on Sept. 2, but Justice sources said the grand jury would center "strictly on Hoffa . . . a narrow look at the Hoffa case."

However, there have been discussions among Justice and Labor Department officials and the Internal Revenue Service about a broad investigation of the Teamsters' Central States, Southeast and Southwest Areas Pension Fund — as well as possible investigations of other pension funds.

THE TEAMSTERS fund and persons associated with it have been investigated before, and several persons have been tried and convicted of offenses related to their work with the pension fund. But one major investigation which led to the indictment of seven men for defrauding the fund ended, after a two-month trial, with the acquittal of all of them in Chicago on April 10.

Because of that experience — a trial in which the government was blocked from presenting much of its potentially most damaging evidence — federal officials are cautious about moving in with another major investigation, which would cost millions of dollars and tie up a small army of investigators, auditors and lawyers.

Since the earlier investigation began, however, a new pension reform law has gone into effect. On paper, at least, it gives the government more power to protect members of pension funds.

But a Labor Department office set up to administer the new law under the direction of former Justice Department lawyer James Hutchinson is still in the process of getting organized. It has only a dozen persons in its Washington office and 60 more in offices around the country. Although there are plans to increase the staff of the office, it will be months before there can be any significant increase.

A LABOR Department source said Hutchinson and Labor Secretary John Dunlop had discussed the possibility of a probe of the Teamster fund, but that Hutchinson had then been told not to talk about it publicly.

If such an inquiry is ordered, it was learned, it will rely on investigators from Hutchinson's office, backed up by Internal Revenue Service investigators and lawyers from Justice Department's Criminal Division.

Both Justice and Labor sources said it was unlikely the FBI — which is handling the federal part of the Hoffa investigation — would become involved in the pension fund probe. They said the FBI traditionally avoids teaming up with other federal investigators and that the FBI is still learning how to deal with white collar crime and has relatively few agents trained to handle complicated financial manipulations such as those involved in operations of the Teamster fund.

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Grand Jury Probe of Hoffa Case Being Delayed Until Next Month

New York Times News Service

DETROIT — A federal grand jury investigation, said by investigators to represent the best hope of solving the mystery of the disappearance of James R. Hoffa, former Teamsters' union president, has been delayed unexpectedly until at least after Labor Day.

There was no immediate explanation. Federal prosecutors had hoped to force testimony from witnesses who have refused to give statements to the FBI.

A knowledgeable source said that prosecutors were still wading through thousands of reports already filed on the case, which is being investigated by more than a hundred agents of the FBI and the local and state police in Michigan.

SEVERAL prosecutors said in Detroit more than a week ago that they planned to call major suspects before a sitting grand jury this week in an effort to get them to make statements or to clarify statements already made.

There was speculation that the grand jury investigation had been postponed because the government is still not sure that a crime was committed when Hoffa disappeared on July 30, and therefore has nothing to take to a grand jury.

Prosecutors had planned to grant limited immunity from prosecution if necessary. Witnesses who refuse to testify after being granted immunity can be jailed for contempt.

Most of the agents investigating the case are said to believe that Hoffa was killed on orders from organized crime leaders because he was trying to regain control of the Teamsters, the most powerful and richest labor union in the country.

The U.S. attorney's office in Detroit has not said whom it planned to call before the grand jury if it does take testimony. A source close to the investigation said, however, that Anthony J. Giacalone, an organized crime figure in Detroit and Florida, and Charles L. O'Brien, Hoffa's foster son, were still considered key figures in the inquiry.

THE grand jury investigation, which is being overseen by the Justice Department in Washington, will be made by a panel called originally to investigate organized crime in Michigan.

Justice Department officials had agreed to use that grand jury to help to investigate Giacalone, a 56-year-old reputed leader of the Mafia, after he refused to make a statement to the FBI. Sources said that although Giacalone had made statements to local investigators and to newsmen, he told FBI agents through his attorney "to get a subpoena," if they wanted to talk to him.

The two men described as key figures in the case, Giacalone and O'Brien, have both dropped out of sight.

An FBI spolesman said that Giacalone's whereabouts could be established if necessary.

O'Brien, who was on a belated honeymoon up until the time of Hoffa's disappearance, showed up in Boston last week at a convention of the warehousemen's division of the Teamsters union. He appeared at the side of Frank E. Fitzsimmons, Hoffa's successor as president of the union.

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INSIDE LABOR
By Victor Riesel

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Jimmy's Bloody Shirt:
Hoffa's Scandals Hang Over '76 Presidential
Campaign as He Did During '72

NEW YORK -- Alive and dead the short shadow of Jimmy Hoffa has loomed long over national presidential politics. It will be no different in '76 than it was in '72. Hoffa's bloody wraith will be draped over the coming campaign as was his numbered prison garb in the last two years of Dick Nixon's final full term.

It seems to have been always thus with the teamsters ever since the long forgotten, late, white-maned truckdrivers' chief Dan Tobin kicked off Franklin Delano Roosevelt's fourth-term drive in 1944.

Today, presidential politics is swiveling crazily atop Hoffa's new "autobiography." In its pages and Omerta (silence) smashing jargon could well be the answer to Jimmy's murder. His words are his own epitaph.

Hoffa's manuscript has been available for about a year. Its contents became less and less a secret as it was offered to publisher after publisher. In it he refers to mob-tied Mafia-linked local union officials, and -- to use a word -- squeals on them as labor

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racketeers. There is even a reference to one local leader who for a very long time has run with the boss and underbosses of the "family" of the late Tommy (Three Finger Brown) Luchese.

In this gang were Hoffa's intimate friends, such as Johnny Dio, Carmine Tramunti, et al. Thus Hoffa turned on the Mafia itself. He didn't just lash out at his enemies in the teamster hierarchy.

But today I'm not playing cops and robbers. That's for the FBI. What Hoffa's disappearance and his book's appearance have done is to complicate White House politics the year before the '76 election just as his messages from a Lewisburg (Pa.) penitentiary cell did in the year before the '72 election. Then as now he appeared to make the 2.2-million-member Teamsters Brotherhood political support an embarrassment.

And then as now the White House incumbent needed -- and needs -- the Teamsters as a political labor base. Few appear to recall that during the early months of 1971, Dick Nixon, Charles (Chuck) Colson and others of the inner political attack group believed they would be "running against George Meany." They believed that

AFL-CIO's politically shrewd and organizationally powerful chief would hurl the entire AFL-CIO against Nixon in 1972. And they believed the Democratic presidential candidate would be either Sen. Ted Kennedy or Ed Muskie. That's why the "hide-away" attack group tried to whip up a battle between Kennedy and Muskie.

So the Nixon strategists looked to the big Teamsters union as the labor base needed by any presidential candidate. Incidentally, more than a year later, when George McGovern realized Meany was trying to crunch him, the South Dakotan actually considered auto union chief Leonard Woodcock, until the last hour, as a possible vice presidential running-mate. The union label is vital in politics. Even Gov. George Wallace has gone for it.

But back to 1971: In April and May that year, emissaries to Jimmy Hoffa's prison cell told the cocky bantam that he'd have to resign his Teamsters presidency if he wanted his freedom. In the spring of that year Hoffa resigned and named Frank Fitzsimmons his successor. As incumbent, Fitz would have no opposition for reelection at the Teamsters' July '71 convention. And

Hoffa believed that as soon as he was out he'd again run the union.

But he overlooked the political implications. Hoffa not only had been freed to make way for what he thought was a Fitz holding operation: he was released at Christmas time, 1971, because Dick Nixon just could not have accepted the endorsement of a union whose president was in the federal pen. Or whose ex-president, as an ex-con, would actually be the Teamsters president in all but name.

So one day while kicking all this around Dick Nixon decided he would hook a condition on Hoffa's commutation by banning him from "direct or indirect" labor activity or management until March, 1980.

Counsel John Dean and assistant (for covert operations) Chuck Colson thought it was a great idea -- but it was Nixon's originally.

Hoffa agreed to get lost. Some say he accepted the ban in writing. But he didn't get lost. He got killed. And he got published.

Now the White House has a dose of Nixon's dilemma. Jerry Ford needs official teamster endorsement. With it

would come money, manpower and almost 1,000 locals. President Ford knows that Meany is gearing up the machinery for an all-out battle to help the Democrats recoup the White House after these eight long cold years. Where else can Jerry Ford get a labor base and a meaningful labor committee? Where else can he get national labor representation on a body such as the White House Labor-Management Committee, from which miners' president Arnold Miller has just resigned?

Suppose, as Meany did during the Pay Board days, Meany pulls out the AFL-CIO members? This would leave only two labor independents, Woodcock and Fitzsimmons. The auto leader is even more strongly anti-Ford than Meany. He'd likely follow. And if Fitzsimmons also walked, then Jerry Ford would have to go presidential hat in hand seeking labor unknowns.

It would be thus during the political campaign itself. The teamsters still appear to be Mr. Ford's hope for a labor campaign base. But Hoffa has thrown the book at him -- and at his political strategists. It seems like the little man just won't get lost.

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Bigger Than 'Jimmy'?
Federal Probers See Teamsters' Presidency
No Motive in Hoffa's Killing

WASHINGTON -- Truly deep inside the Justice Department, where criminal intelligence is quietly analyzed, the belief is that the solution to Jimmy Hoffa's murder is in the timing of "the hit." Thus virtually no one of consequence in the FBI-Justice Department Criminal Division infrastructure believes that Hoffa's assassination is directly tied to his power-motivated craving for the Teamsters Brotherhood presidency.

"It's all in the timing," I was told. "We solve that, we've got it made. Why was he killed when he was?"

Further, the investigators are searching for another dead body and are expecting another killing. The first would be one of the trio in on the actual slugging and shooting. The other, they say, could be Hoffa's old bodyguard Chuck O'Brien, "who knows too much for somebody's comfort but not enough really to wing us in."

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And if any such violence occurs, my source adds, "We'll break the case since you can wager that one or two of the others will run scared, send a lawyer in secretly to negotiate for a chunk of that big $250,000 reward and get us to change his identity. Happens frequently, but we will break the case."

Now first, the timing: the Teamsters' presidency is a foregone conclusion. Incumbent Frank Fitzsimmons can't be stopped. Hoffa could just not have developed the eligibility to run. There was no such thing as a favorable court of appeals decision "about" to come down which would have produced such eligibility.

Hoffa was in court on the constitutionality of the presidential conditioned commutation of sentence which kept him out of labor affairs "directly or indirectly." The court of appeals has been considering whether to refer his case back to the district court for a hearing or a new trial on the constitutionality issues. Nothing the court of appeals could have decided would have wiped out the presidential ban on Hoffa's labor activity.

And, if Hoffa had lost in the court of appeals as he did quite a while ago in the district court, he

would have had to go to the Supreme Court. If he had won, he would have had to wait for the lower court to get his case on the calendar. Then after a long while there would have been a long trial. He would have won or lost. But then either he or the Justice Department, acting for the President, would have taken the case back to the court of appeals and finally back up to the Supreme Court.

This would have taken several years, as have Hoffa's cases in the past. Further, his little known second commutation appeal, "pending" with the U.S. Pardon Attorney, had not yet been acted on or investigated. The Pardon Office was waiting for a final court decision before it moved on Hoffa's parallel petition for a full unconditioned commutation. Eventually this would have had to go to Atty. Gen. Levi and finally to the President.

And by that time the next round of elections of Teamster convention delegates in February, March or April would have been over, since the national conclave is set for next June in Las Vegas.

Hoffa could not have grabbed for Teamsters'

presidential power through a "nominee" or a "surrogate" because virtually all sections of the brotherhood have officially endorsed Frank Fitzsimmons and Murray "Dusty" Miller for reelection as general president and secretary--treasurer respectively. This includes all four "conferences" (Western, Central, Southern and Eastern), and many of the big union's eight trade divisions such as warehouse, over the road, local cartage etc., and many district councils. And the key regional local leaders.

So, if the Teamsters' presidency wasn't the prize, what was it, the Justice Department people ask. There are, of course, the multi-million-dollar wheeling and dealing and finders' fees swirling around the $1.4 billion Chicago-based Central States, Southeast and Southwest pension fund. Hoffa was brain deep in that. But the fund has been more thoroughly investigated than anything since John Kennedy's assassination (which brought so much satisfaction to Hoffa that he threatened to maul the two officials who shut down the Teamsters Washington national headquarters and put the

flag at half-mast the afternoon of Nov. 22, 1963, when Jimmy was national president but in Florida at the moment).

Actually these probes have produced exciting investigative copy but few convictions, because until recently there just hasn't been any tough pension protection law. There is now under the new Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). But its security staff is still small. Good auditors at federal salaries are hard to recruit.

So it will be quite a while before ERISA agents dig into the mammoth pension fund. Take it for granted that anything Hoffa could have leaked on this would either have gotten him into trouble -- or was information the authorities and many newsmen already knew.

So what was it at the very moment of the "hit" which so desperately disturbed the Mafia that its national commission approved Hoffa's assassination? At this minute no one in the highest government circles -- including the White House, which has been pushing for an answer -- really knows. And in the words of one meditative Justice Department executive: "It could be

even a bigger story than Hoffa's disappearance. After all he's just another of those who lay down with street dogs and get up with fleas. Only he didn't get up."

So, why was he killed when he was?

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Found Gun in Giacalone Car, FBI Discloses

BY BRYCE NELSON
Times Staff Writer

DETROIT—Joseph (Joey) Giacalone, whose automobile the FBI believes was used to facilitate the abduction of James R. Hoffa, failed again Wednesday to force the FBI to return his 1975 maroon Mercury after the disclosure that a shotgun was found in the car.

An FBI affidavit filed this week with the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals states that the agents found a Remington Wingmaster .12 gauge pump-type shotgun and 24 shotgun shells. The shotgun was test-fired by the FBI, according to the affidavit signed by special agent James C. Esposito.

The pellets in the shotgun shells in Giacalone's automobile "should be retained for comparison in the event that Mr. Hoffa's body is recovered and found to contain shotgun pellets," the FBI affidavit stated.

U.S. Dist. Judge Thomas P. Thornton said that he would rule Friday on Giacalone's motions to quash a grand jury subpoena of the automobile, but indicated in court that he was skeptical about arguments put forth by Giacalone's lawyer, N. C. Deday Larene.

Last week, another federal judge had ordered the FBI to return the automobile to Giacalone, saying that its search warrant was insufficient. The federal government then tried a new tactic to keep the automobile, issuing a grand jury subpoena of the car.

Robert C. Ozer, head of the Justice Department's Strike Force investigating Hoffa's disappearance, argued in court Wednesday that it was necessary to keep the car to conduct tests relating to Hoffa's disappearance.

The FBI affidavit stated that agents had taken several fingerprints and palm prints from Giacalone's car and from a soft drink bottle found under the front seat.

One of the fingerprints found by the FBI was that of Charles (Chuckie) O'Brien, Hoffa's foster son, who has said that he borrowed Giacalone's car on July 30, the day Hoffa disappeared, to deliver a 40-pound salmon to a Teamster official here.

The FBI, relying on information from the former Teamster president's son, James P. Hoffa, said that O'Brien had turned against James R. Hoffa in recent months and allied himself with Hoffa's union enemies, but was one of the few people whose automobile Hoffa would voluntarily enter.

The FBI said that three expert scent-tracking dogs had "detected the scent of James Riddle Hoffa" in Giacalone's automobile "specifically in the right rear seat area and in the trunk compartment."

The FBI has shipped the rear seat cushion, backrests and trunk carpeting to the FBI laboratory in Washington, D.C., for tests which it says will not be completed until October.

Joseph Giacalone, the owner of the car, is the son of reputed Detroit Mafia figure Anthony J. (Tony Jack) Giacalone and the nephew of another man subpoenaed by the grand jury, Vito (Vic Jack) Giacalone.

Hoffa reportedly told people on July 30, the day of his disappearance, that he was meeting Anthony Giacalone and Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano in the early afternoon.

O'Brien, Anthony Giacalone, and Anthony Provenzano are reported to have invoked Fifth Amendment rights against self-incrimination before the grand jury.

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"This is a very hard case to crack," said one source close to the investigation. "This could be another Yablonski case but it's not like the Yablonski murder in the respect that Yablonski's murder was committed by a bunch of hillbillies with shotguns. Hoffa's killers were true professionals."

(United Mine Workers insurgent Joseph Yablonski was murdered in late 1969. UMW president W. A. (Tony) Boyle was linked with, and other UMW officials were later convicted of, hiring his murderers.)

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Hoffa Jury May Call 3 Others From Mafia

DETROIT — A federal grand jury may subpoena three more reputed mob figures, including the alleged Mafia boss of Detroit, in connection with the disappearance of ex-Teamsters president James R. Hoffa, according to sources close to the investigation.

The three are Joseph Zerilli, Raffaele (Jimmy Q) Quasarano and Peter Vitale. Vitale and Quasarano are acquaintances of Teamsters President Frank Fitzsimmons, according to Michigan law enforcement officials. Fitzimmons has not been subpoenaed.

Quasarano, identified in U.S. Senate testimony as an "administrator" in the Mafia, said he knew Hoffa, but not well. In 1963 Senate testimony, Zerilli was identified as the No. 1 Mafia figure in Detroit, although he has denied the accusation saying: "I've been in the bakery business for 36 years."

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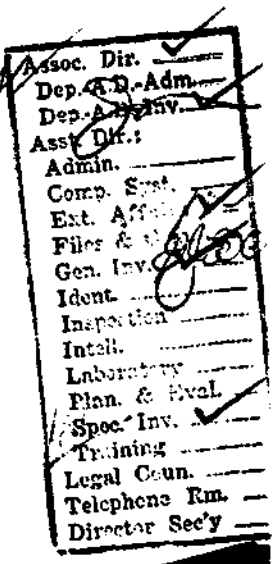
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INSIDE LABOR
By Victor Riese

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Tales of Hoffa:
Carlo Gambino Did Not
Send the Mafia Courier

WASHINGTON -- For a while, the romanticists had it that Don Carlo Gambino, godfather of godfathers, had dispatched a courier to the Detroit and Chicago combines to get them off their duffs and go find Jimmy Hoffa alive or dead to prove that the syndicate doesn't go in for this sort of thing. The Mafia was getting a bad name what with word getting around that this was an organization hit of such a nice fellow.

Well, Don Carlo, relaxing quietly in his Massapequa, Long Island (N.Y.) shangri-la, did no such thing. To the boss of bosses, Hoffa and some of the latter's friends were upstarts making too many waves, spilling too many leaks and turning author too frequently. This just isn't Don Carlo's thing. Detective stories yes. Autobiographies no.

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And it wasn't the Mafia which was getting a bad name -- it was, and is, the federal government. It isn't the syndicate which is getting the heat. It's the government.

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And the hottest seat in town has been that of Michigan's Republican Senator with a future, 52-year-old Robert Griffin, co-author of the powerful 1959 Landrum--Griffin labor-management reporting and disclosure law. His constituency wants action on the Hoffa disappearance, and on the huge teamster $2.5 billion pension, health and welfare funds centralized in Chicago.

Griffin lunched with Frank (Fitz) Fitzsimmons, Teamsters general president. Nothing new. Fitz also conferred privately with New York Sen. Jack Javits, co-author of the pension reform act, known as "ERISA." Still nothing new.

On Sept. 27 Vice President Nelson Rockefeller, too, lunched with Fitz, who said he'd cooperate with any probe but wouldn't stand for any smear.

Finally Griffin decided that John Dunlop's Labor Department was too timid; that the Justice Department was too busy and time had come to call for a Senate select committee in the image of Arkansas elder statesman Sen. John McClellan's famed probe -- the one which sired two presidential candidates, John Kennedy and Barry Goldwater (both members of the old group).

Well, Dunlop isn't timid. He has a sort of science fiction talent for being opaque and transparent simultaneously. His Labor Department probers quietly are deep into the investigation of the vast Teamsters Central States, Southeast and Southwest Pension fund and interlocked health and welfare monies. These have paid out $2.5 billion in the past 14 years.

But it will take an additional 300 to 400 auditors and investigators. Dunlop doesn't have the money to hire them. Why? He's asked the White House to push it. No report of a further push. Why? If so it's all buried in Congress. Why?

Further, Dunlop has a passion for "due process" and is allergic to the investigative reporter. He's a devotee of the quiet probe. But timid he's not.

Neither is the Justice Department. FBI agents are neck deep in the Hoffa mystery. And in the pension--welfare-health investigation. But there must be some central strategy. How do you hit the fund? How does one determine the role of the 16 trustees who administer the funds?

These are the questions now being studied by the

coordinated "task force" meeting in Detroit, Chicago and here in the capital.

Should it be attempted on a criminal or civil basis? Either way the probe and grand juries treatment and possible trials would take four or five years. Would it be easier to prove criminal conspiracy or to go in for a search of possible civil violations of the trustees' fiduciary relationship?

And after all the howling, where is the manpower? Why, for example, was a crack team of Labor Department probers taken off investigations in the Florida office of the U.S. Labor Department and dispersed into other sections -- as some of them have charged?

How can the Justice Department-IRS-Labor Department task force prove that risky loans, bad loans, shady loans and even loans as huge as a combination of $200 million to one operator (now dead) were criminal violations?

Sure, lots of tough names have gotten their hands on loans. That's easy to trace -- the whole thing: the m bankruptcy, the quick deals, the incestuous Midwest crowd's skimmings which have been reported over the years.

Point is -- why haven't all these mysteries been

cracked before? Why have there been just two or three convictions, one of which was Hoffa himself, involving crooked deals? These stories have been in the public prints for years -- dollar by dollar, scheme by scheme, alleged fraud by alleged fraud.

The questions to be answered are: Why hasn't there been enough investigative manpower? Why hasn't John Dunlop's request for more money been rushed through? Why have the nation's 17 anti-organized crime Justice Department strike forces been held in leash? Why have their appropriations been squeezed?

So Sen. Griffin now wants some answers: Who was sufficiently powerful in the Midwestern combines to give a body movement assent to the hit on Hoffa? What about all the violence in and around Hoffa's home local 299, Detroit? Why hasn't the bureaucracy all the way up, up, up the line been more active?

Once and for all, the nation should know who actually controlled that money before the bookkeeping began adding up fiduciarily. Could be we might learn something politically.

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UP-11

AND HOFFA, DETROIT (UP-OSC)

OZER TOLD THE COURT, "THE FIRST WITNESS WILL IDENTIFY THEM (THE THREE MEN) AS ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THE ABDUCTION AND MURDER OF JAMES R. HOFFA."

THE OTHER WITNESS, HE SAID, SAW THE ABDUCTION.

OZER DID NOT IDENTIFY THE WITNESSES OR ELABORATE ON THEIR TESTIMONY.

THE THREE MEN, PLUS ANDRETTA'S BROTHER STEPHEN, WHO LIVES IN LITTLE FERRY, N.J., APPEARED BRIEFLY TODAY BEFORE A FEDERAL GRAND JURY INVESTIGATING THE HOFFA CASE. THEIR LAWYER SAID THEY ALL PLEADED THE FIFTH AMENDMENT.

THE BRIGUGLIO BROTHERS AND THOMAS ANDRETTA WERE ORDERED BY CHURCHILL TO APPEAR FOR AN IDENTIFICATION LINEUP IN OAKLAND COUNTY, WHERE HOFFA LIVED AND WHERE HE VANISHED.

OZER SAID THE SECOND WITNESS WOULD APPEAR AT THE LINEUP.

EARLIER THE FIVE MEN HAD FILED INTO AND OUT OF THE GRAND JURY ROOM. WITHIN 90 MINUTES, OZER APPEARED BEFORE CHURCHILL SEEKING AN ORDER TO CARRY OUT THE LINEUP. HE SAID THE THREE MEN REFUSED TO TAKE PART VOLUNTARILY.

OZER DID NOT MENTION THE GOVERNMENT'S TWO WITNESSES UNTIL HE APPEARED IN THE COURTROOM, WHERE HE ALSO DISCLOSED WHY THE GOVERNMENT LINKED THE NEW JERSEY MEN WITH HOFFA.

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HOFFA 1ST-4
2ND LEAD A299
BY CHARLES W. BELL

DETROIT (UPI) -- FEDERAL OFFICIALS SAID THURSDAY THAT A WITNESS HAS IDENTIFIED THREE NEW JERSEY TEAMSTERS AS "ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS" IN THE ABDUCTION AND MURDER OF FORMER TEAMSTERS INTERNATIONAL BOSS JAMES R. HOFFA.

A SECOND WITNESS, OFFICIALS SAID, SAW THE ABDUCTION JULY 30 BUT DOES NOT KNOW THE IDENTITIES OF PERSONS INVOLVED.

"THE FIRST WITNESS WILL IDENTIFY THEM (THE THREE MEN) AS ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THE ABDUCTION AND MURDER OF JAMES R. HOFFA," ROBERT D. OZER, HEAD OF THE U.S. ORGANIZED CRIME STRIKE TASK FORCE IN DETROIT, TOLD A FEDERAL COURT JUDGE.

THE JUDGE, JAMES P. CHURCHILL, GRANTED A GOVERNMENT REQUEST TO COMPEL THE NEW JERSEY TRIO TO APPEAR AT AN IDENTIFICATION LINE-UP SO THAT THE SECOND WITNESS CAN DETERMINE IF THEY ARE THE SAME MEN HE WATCHED MAKE THE ABDUCTION.

THE DEVELOPMENTS CAUSED A FURORE AND CAUGHT EVEN THE HOFFA FAMILY BY SURPRISE.

"IT CAME AS A SURPRISE TO ME," SAID HOFFA'S ONLY SON, DETROIT LAWYER JAMES P. HOFFA. "I THINK THIS IS ONLY THE FIRST OF SEVERAL REVELATIONS TO COME. I DON'T THINK THE FULL STORY IS OUT YET."

PICKUP 5TH PGH: OZER DID NOT
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HOFFA 12-5

PICTURE

BAY ED

BY CHARLES W. BELL

DETROIT (UPI) -- FEDERAL OFFICIALS SET THE STAGE TODAY FOR A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN AN UNIDENTIFIED WITNESS AND THREE NEW JERSEY TEAMSTERS WHO SAID KIDNAPED AND KILLED FORMER TEAMSTERS INTERNATIONAL BOSS JAMES HOFFA.

THE MEETING WAS SET FOR SATURDAY AT AN IDENTIFICATION LINEUP ORDERED BY A FEDERAL JUDGE.

ROBERT OZER, HEAD OF THE U.S. ORGANIZED CRIME STRIKE TASK FORCE IN DETROIT, SAID THURSDAY TWO MEN MAY HOLD THE KEY TO WHAT HAPPENED TO HOFFA.

ONE, HE SAID, WAS A MAN WHO SAID HE SAW THE ABDUCTION.

THE OTHER, OZER SAID, WAS A MAN WHO NAMED THE NEW JERSEY MEN AS PARTICIPANTS IN HOFFA'S ABDUCTION AND MURDER.

THE EXISTENCE OF BOTH WAS DISCLOSED THURSDAY WHEN OZER APPEARED IN A FEDERAL COURT SEEKING AN ORDER TO COMPEL THE NEW JERSEY TRIO TO APPEAR FOR THE LINEUP.

FEDERAL JUDGE JAMES CHURCHILL ORDERED THE LINEUP AFTER OZER TOLD HIM THE THREE MEN REFUSED TO TAKE PART VOLUNTARILY.

OZER SAID HE WOULD TAKE ELABORATE PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT IDENTIFICATION OF THE WITNESS.

HOFFA VANISHED JULY 30 FROM OUTSIDE A SUBURBAN DETROIT RESTAURANT. EVEN HIS FAMILY LONG AGO CONCEDED HE WAS SLAIN.

BUT OZER CREATED A STIR IN FEDERAL COURT WHEN HE DECLARED HOFFA WAS KIDNAPED AND MURDERED AND WHEN HE SAID A SECOND WITNESS HAD FINGERED THREE NEW JERSEY TEAMSTERS AS "ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS" IN HOFFA'S DISAPPEARANCE.

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"IT CAME AS A SURPRISE TO ME," SAID HOFFA'S ONLY SON, DETROIT LAWYER JAMES HOFFA. "I THINK THIS IS ONLY THE FIRST OF SEVERAL REVELATIONS TO COME. I DON'T THINK THE FULL STORY IS OUT YET."

OZER SAID SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO, 47, OF PARAMUS, N.J., BUSINESS AGENT FOR TEAMSTERS LOCAL 560 IN UNION CITY AND A CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF ANTHONY "TONY PRO" PROVENZANO, FOR MANY YEARS THE PRESIDENT OF 560, WAS AMONG THE THREE NAMED AS THE ABDUCTORS AND KILLERS OF HOFFA.

THE DAY HOFFA VANISHED, HE TOLD HIS FAMILY, HE WAS MEETING PROVENZANO AND TWO OTHER MEN FOR LUNCH.

ALSO NAMED IN THE ABDUCTION AND KILLING WAS GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO OF EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J., A BROTHER OF SALVATORE AND A REPUTED MEMBER OF LOCAL 560. THE THIRD NAMED WAS THOMAS A. ANDRETTA, 38, HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, N.J., A REPUTED UNION ENFORCER LINKED BY POLICE SOURCES WITH JOSEPH "BAYONNE JOE" ZICARELLI, ALLEGED CRIME BOSS OF NORTHERN NEW JERSEY.

THE THREE, PLUS ANDRETTA'S BROTHER, STEPHEN, OF LITTLE FERRY, N.J., AND ROLLAND MONASTER, A FORMER PRESIDENT OF HOFFA'S HOME LOCAL 299 IN DETROIT, APPEARED BRIEFLY BEFORE A FEDERAL GRAND JURY INVESTIGATING THE HOFFA CASE.

A LAWYER FOR THE FOUR NEW JERSEY WITNESSES SAID THEY ALL PLEADED THE FIFTH AMENDMENT AGAINST SELF-INCRIMINATION. MONASTER SAID HE COOPERATED, BUT DID NOT DISCLOSE WHAT HE WAS ASKED.

THE NEW JERSEY WITNESSES WERE SUBPOENAED THIS WEEK AFTER FBI AGENTS SEARCHED THREE SITES IN NEW JERSEY. WHAT THE AGENTS FOUND -- IF ANYTHING -- WAS NOT DISCLOSED.

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Informer Charges:

3 N.J. TEAMSTERS KILLED HOFFA

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE JL3

DAILY NEWS
NEW YORK, N.Y.

Date: 12/5/75
Edition: THREE STAR
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Editor: MICHAEL O'NEILL
Title: Hoffex

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3 in N. J. Tied to Hoffa Killing

Informer Names Teamster Aides 'As Active Participants'

By PHILIP WECHSLER

Three New Jersey Teamster Union officials reportedly were named by a government informer in Detroit yesterday as participating in the abduction-murder of James R. Hoffa, the former international Teamsters boss who disappeared without a trace last July 30.

Informed sources also told The News that documents seized by federal agents in New Jersey substantiated the details the informant gave federal prosecutors in Detroit.

The informant's identity was withheld, but the sources said he was from New Jersey.

The three teamster officials allegedly named by the informant were Salvatore Briguglio, 47, of Paramus, his brother, Gabriel, of Union City, and Thomas Andretta, 38, of Hasbrouck Heights.

The three men are affiliated with Teamsters Local 560 in Union City, which formerly was headed by Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano, a one-time Hoffa protege who later split with him.

Hoffa's family had said he told them that he planned to meet Provenzano the day he disappeared. Provenzano, of Clifton, who previously appeared before the Detroit grand jury, has denied any connection with Hoffa's disappearance.

In Detroit yesterday, Robert Ozer, head of the federal Organized Crime Strike Force there, said in open court that the informant "will identify them (the three New Jersey Teamsters) as active participants in the abduction and murder of James R. Hoffa."

Ozer also said the government has an eyewitness to the abduction of Hoffa.

The Briguglio brothers and Andretta were ordered by Federal Judge James Churchill to appear tomorrow in a lineup in suburban Oakland County, Mich.

The government also asked the judge to grant immunity from prosecution for Andretta's brother, Stephen of Fort Lee. But this motion was delayed until Stephen could obtain another lawyer.

Both pairs of brothers appeared before the grand jury in Detroit yesterday morning but, according to their attorney there, pleaded the Fifth Amendment.

Grabs Safe Deposit Box

On Tuesday night, FBI agents in Newark obtained search warrants and seized a file cabinet used by Salvatore Briguglio at the Local 560 office in Union City. The search warrant said agents were looking for two .38 caliber pistols equipped with silencers and various documents.

The FBI also was granted search warrants to seize contents of a safe dposit box in Union City that allegedly contained cash and papers connected to loansharking activities.

A third warrant was issued to the FBI in its search for the body of Armand Faugno, a longtime New Jersey racketeer, in a Jersey City garbage dump. However, the agents apparently have yet to execute that search.

The fast-breaking developments in New Jersey and Detroit this week apparently were sparked by the government informant's knowledge of Faugno who technically is listed as a fugitive from justice after he failed to appear in a counterfeiting trial more than two years ago. Two of his co-defendants in that case were Salvatore Briguglio and Thomas Andretta, both of whom subsequently pleaded guilty to a conspiracy charge and served time in a federal prison.

Stephen Andretta reportedly was a one-time executive in Faugno's trucking firm in Hudson County.

Many Subpenaed

Meanwhile, the federal Organized Crime Strike Force in Newark issued a score of subpenas to New Jersey teamster officials who were hauled before a federal grand jury late yesterday afternoon. That grand jury reportedly is investigating the alleged misuse of Teamster pension funds.

Provenzano had once controlled those pension funds but his official connections with Local 560 were severed when he was convicted of extortion and served time in a federal prison with Hoffa, who had been convicted of jury tampering.

In addition to the Briguglios and the Andrettas, a fifth witness was called before the grand jury in Detroit yesterday. He was identified as Rolland McMaster, a former president of Hoffa's old Local 299 in Detroit and now a Teamsters International organizer who lives in Wilson, Mich.

McMaster said he did not know why he was subpenaed but that he cooperated fully.



UPI Telephoto

Jersey Teamsters official Salvatore Briguglio leaves Detroit grand jury hearing yesterday. He has been linked to Hoffa disappearance. —*Story on page 3*



Thomas (l.) and Stephen Andretta leave Federal Court in Detroit.

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(HOFFA)

DETROIT (UPI) -- FEDERAL SOURCES SAID TODAY THAT EARLY INDICTMENTS IN THE [illegible] HOFFA DISAPPEARANCE CASE DEPEND LARGELY ON WHETHER A MYSTERY WITNESS RECOGNIZES THREE NEW JERSEY MEN AT A COURT-ORDERED IDENTIFICATION LINEUP.

"IF HE CAN IDENTIFY THEM," A FEDERAL INVESTIGATOR SAID, "WE MAY ASK THE GRAND JURY TO RETURN INDICTMENTS NEXT WEEK."

THE MYSTERY MAN, FEDERAL AUTHORITIES SAID, WITNESSED THE ABDUCTION OF THE FORMER TEAMSTERS BOSS ON JULY 30. THE LINEUP WAS SET UP, OFFICIALS SAID, TO SEE IF THE WITNESS CAN IDENTIFY THE THREE MEN AS HOFFA'S ABDUCTORS.

LAW ENFORCEMENT SOURCES IN JERSEY CITY, N.J., SAID TODAY THE FBI WAS BEING SEARCHING A 47-ACRE LANDFILL AREA UNDER A HIGHWAY OVERPASS AS PART OF THE HOFFA INVESTIGATION.

THE FBI OBTAINED A SEARCH WARRANT TUESDAY TO CHECK THE DUMP FOR THE BODY OF ARMAND FAUGNO, A NEW JERSEY RACKETEER WHO VANISHED THREE YEARS AGO. THE LONG ISLAND, N.Y., NEWSPAPER NEWSDAY SAID FRIDAY FEDERAL SOURCES TOLD IT THE SEARCH FOR FAUGNO WAS A "SMOKESCREEN" IN THE FBI'S HUNT FOR HOFFA'S BODY.

THE LINEUP WAS ORDERED YESTERDAY BY U.S. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE JAMES CHURCHILL. IT WAS SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW IN OAKLAND COUNTY, WHERE HOFFA LIVED AND WHERE HE VANISHED.

ROBERT E. O'BRIEN, HEAD OF THE U.S. ORGANIZED CRIME STRIKE TASK FORCE IN DETROIT, TOLD CHURCHILL A SECOND MYSTERY MAN NAMED THE THREE NEW JERSEY MEN AS "ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS" IN THE ABDUCTION AND MURDER OF THE FORMER TEAMSTER CHIEF.

THE THREE WERE IDENTIFIED AS SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO, 47, OF PARAMUS, HIS BROTHER GABRIEL, 36; AND THOMAS ANDRETTA, 38, OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS.

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DUMP 12-
WITH HOFFA
BY JUDI HASSON

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (UPI) -- THE INVESTIGATION OF THE DISAPPEARANCE OF FORMER TEAMSTERS UNION BOSS JAMES HOFFA HAS LED THE FBI TO A SPRAWLING LANDFILL IN THE MARSHES NEAR THE HACKENSACK RIVER.

AN FBI SPOKESMAN SAID FRIDAY THE AGENCY HAS NOT BEGUN TO DIG AT THE SPRAWLING SITE UNDER THE PULASKI SKYWAY WHICH GOVERNMENT PROBERS BELIEVE COULD HAVE BEEN USED AS AN UNDERWORLD BURIAL GROUND.

HOWEVER, SOURCES CLOSE TO THE INVESTIGATION SAID THE FBI HAD BEEN OUT TO "LOOK AROUND" THE 47-ACRE MOSCATO'S DUMP. THEY OBTAINED A SEARCH WARRANT TUESDAY TO DIG FOR THE BODY OF ARMAND FAUGNO, A TEAMSTERS ASSOCIATE.

"YOU CAN BE SURE THEY (FBI AGENTS) HAVE BEEN OUT THERE," A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL SAID. "THE PROBLEM IS THEY COULD BE DIGGING FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS UNLESS THEY KNOW WHERE TO LOOK."

JAMES PAGANO, AN ENGINEER WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, SAID THE LANDFILL IS FOUR TO 12 FEET DEEP AND FILLED ALTERNATELY WITH ONE LAYER OF SOLID WASTE AND ONE FOOT OF DIRT.

THE ENTIRE AREA IS COVERED WITH TWO FEET OF CLEAN DIRT.

"THE LANDFILL HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR SEVERAL YEARS SO THERE SHOULD BE SOME GROWTH ON THE TOP," SAID PAGANO. "IN MOST CASES, YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO SEE IF THE AREA HAD BEEN DISTURBED BECAUSE THE VEGETATION IS DUG UP."

"THE FBI HAS BEEN SWARMING AROUND HERE FOR THE LAST THREE DAYS," SAID FRANK VIOLA, WHO WORKS AT THE A&T AUTO WRECKER CO. ADJACENT TO THE DUMP. "BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN ANYONE DIGGING."

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PM DEC 12-

HITA HOFFA

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (UPI) -- A SEARCH FOR THE BODY OF FORMER TEAMSTERS UNION PRESIDENT JAMES R. HOFFA IS UNDER WAY HERE, ALTHOUGH FEDERAL AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT BEGUN DIGGING AT A SPRAWLING MARSHY LANDFILL ALONG THE HACKENSACK RIVER.

A SPOKESMAN SAID EVEN AGENTS ASSIGNED TO KEEP WATCH OVER THE LANDFILL WERE CALLED OFF LAST SATURDAY. THE SPOKESMAN DID NOT KNOW IF AGENTS WOULD RETURN TO THE SITE AT A LATER DATE OR IF PLANS TO DIG UP THE SITE HAD BEEN ABANDONED ENTIRELY.

THE TERMINATION OF THE STAKEOUT CAME AFTER THREE NEW JERSEY MOBSTERS WERE VIEWED IN A LINEUP IN PONTIAC, MICH., SATURDAY BY A BOUNDBROOK, N.J., MAN WHO CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN HOFFA'S ABDUCTION. FEDERAL OFFICIALS DECLINED TO DISCLOSE THE RESULTS OF THE LINEUP, BUT THE TRIO WAS NOT HELD ON ANY CHARGES.

THE LANDFILL HAD BEEN OPERATED BY PHILIP BERNARD MOSCATO OF JERSEY CITY BEFORE IT WAS CLOSED SEVERAL YEARS AGO. MOSCATO IS REPUTED TO HAVE UNDERWORLD CONNECTIONS.

THE AGENTS LEFT THE AREA FRIDAY NIGHT AND WERE REPORTED INVESTIGATING REPORTS THAT HOFFA'S BODY HAD BEEN TRANSPORTED HERE IN A 55-GALLON DRUM FOLLOWING HIS DISAPPEARANCE IN MICHIGAN LAST JULY 30.

THE FBI IN NEWARK REMAINED TIGHT-LIPPED SATURDAY ABOUT ITS ACTIVITIES CONCERNING THE HOFFA DISAPPEARANCE AND SAID IN A TERSE STATEMENT ONLY THAT DIGGING HAD NOT BEGUN. IT SAID, IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, THAT IT HAD NO IMMEDIATE PLANS TO START DIGGING AT THE DUMP. IT REFUSED TO ANSWER ALL OTHER QUESTIONS.

A WARRANT WAS ISSUED BY U.S. MAGISTRATE WILLIAM HUNT IN NEWARK LAST TUESDAY FOR A SEARCH FOR THE BODY OF ALLEGED JERSEY CITY LOANSHARK ARMAND TAUSCH, WHO HAS BEEN MISSING SINCE DECEMBER 1972.

BUT SOURCES CLOSE TO THE HOFFA INVESTIGATION SAID THE AGENTS WERE ACTUALLY LOOKING FOR HOFFA'S BODY AT THE ABANDONED 37-ACRE LANDFILL WHICH STRETCHES FROM RTE. 1 TO THE EDGES OF THE HACKENSACK RIVER UNDER THE PULASKI SKYWAY.

"THE TAUSCH ANGLE WAS A SMOKESCREEN. LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS THINK THERE'S A GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT HOFFA IS THERE IN THE DUMP. IT'S LOGICAL. IF MAKES SENSE," ONE OFFICIAL WAS REPORTED AS SAYING.

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UP-026
AND HOFFA, DETROIT (UP-026)
IN A COPYRIGHTED STORY TODAY, THE DETROIT NEWS QUOTED EAST COAST AUTHORITIES AS SAYING HOFFA AND PROVENZANO "PUNCHED IT OUT" IN A MIAMI MOTEL 15 MONTHS BEFORE HOFFA DISAPPEARED.
THE OFFICIALS SAID, ACCORDING TO THE NEWS, THAT THE FIGHT OCCURRED DURING "A BITTER ARGUMENT OVER TEAMSTERS POLITICS" AND ENDED WITH HOFFA HITTING PROVENZANO ON THE HEAD WITH A BEER BOTTLE.
THE NEWS SAID NEW JERSEY AUTHORITIES LEARNED OF THE NOVEMBER, 1973, FIGHT AT THE MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT MOTEL WHILE INVESTIGATING AN INFORMANT'S TIP THAT PROVENZANO ONCE "HAD A CONTRACT" FOR HOFFA'S MURDER. HOWEVER, FBI AGENTS IN NEW JERSEY SAID THE ALLEGED CONTRACT "WAS CANCELED."
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UP-028
(HOFFA)

DETROIT (UPI) --THE SEARCH FOR JAMES HOFFA, WITHOUT ANY SOLID LEADS SINCE THE FORMER TEAMSTERS BOSS DISAPPEARED NEARLY FOUR MONTHS AGO, SUDDENLY HAS BLOSSOMED ON TWO FRONTS.

AT PONTIAC, MICH., A MYSTERY WITNESS AGREED TO SURVEY A POLICE LINEUP TO SEE IF HE COULD IDENTIFY THREE MEN HE SAID HE SAW ABDUCT HOFFA.

FEDERAL SOURCES ALSO SAID THE FBI IS TRYING TO DETERMINE WHETHER HOFFA WAS SLAIN, PACKED INTO AN EMPTY BARREL AND TRUCKED TO NEW JERSEY FOR DISPOSAL IN A GANGLAND BURIAL GROUND.

HOFFA VANISHED JULY 30 AFTER TELLING HIS FAMILY HE PLANNED TO MEET THREE MEN FOR LUNCH AT A SUBURBAN DETROIT RESTAURANT.

AUTHORITIES SAID A MAN TOLD THEM HE SAW THREE MEN KIDNAP HOFFA WHILE A SECOND MAN, THEY SAID, TOLD THEM HE KNOWS THE NAMES OF THREE MEN WHO ABDUCTED AND MURDERED HOFFA.

THE THREE MEN WERE IDENTIFIED IN FEDERAL COURT AS SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO, 47, OF PARAMUS, N.J.,; HIS BROTHER, GABRIEL, OF UNION CITY, N.J.; AND THOMAS ANDRETTA, 38, OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, N.J. ALL THREE WERE IDENTIFIED AS MEMBERS OR EMPLOYEES OF TEAMSTERS LOCAL 560 IN UNION CITY.

SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO WAS IDENTIFIED AS AN ASSOCIATE OF ANTHONY "TONY PRO" PROVENZANO, ONE OF THE THREE MEN HOFFA TOLD HIS FAMILY HE WAS GOING TO MEET THE DAY HE DROPPED OUT OF SIGHT.

THE BRIGUGLIO BROTHERS AND ANDRETTA WERE ORDERED THURSDAY BY FEDERAL JUDGE JAMES CHURCHILL TO APPEAR TODAY FOR THE LINEUP IN OAKLAND COUNTY, NORTH OF DETROIT, WHERE HOFFA LIVED AND WAS LAST SEEN.

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70 DEC 15 1975 WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

AT THE LINEUP, THE MAN WHO SAID HE WITNESSED HOFFA'S ABDUCTION WILL TRY TO DETERMINE IF THE THREE MEN ARE THE SAME ONES HE SAW JULY 30.

SIX MEMBERS OF A DETROIT TRUCKING COMPANY APPEARED FRIDAY BEFORE THE GRAND JURY AND OFFICIALS SAID INVESTIGATORS SEIZED COMPANY RECORDS.

SOURCES IN DETROIT AND JERSEY CITY, N.J., SAID INVESTIGATORS WERE CHECKING REPORTS HOFFA'S BODY WAS TRANSPORTED TO NEW JERSEY IN AN EMPTY BARREL.

EDWIN STREICHER, TERMINAL MANAGER FOR GATEWAY TRANSPORTATION, SAID HE AND FIVE EMPLOYES APPEARED BEFORE THE GRAND JURY TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT THE WAY THEY HANDLED FREIGHT AT THE TIME HOFFA DISAPPEARED.

STREICHER SAID HE WAS ASKED IF ANY BARRELS WERE MISPLACED ABOUT THAT TIME. HE SAID THERE WAS NO WAY HE COULD TELL BECAUSE BARRELS FREQUENTLY ARE MISPLACED.

UPI 12-04 10:52 AES

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A02M
R A
HOFFA 12-9
DAY LD

DETROIT (UPI) --THE SEARCH FOR JAMES R. HOFFA, WITHOUT ANY SOLID LEADS SINCE THE FORMER TEAMSTERS BOSS DISAPPEARED NEARLY FOUR MONTHS AGO, SUDDENLY WAS BLOSSOMED ON TWO FRONTS.

AT PONTIAC, MICH., A MYSTERY WITNESS AGREED TO SURVEY A POLICE LINEUP TO SEE IF HE COULD IDENTIFY THREE MEN HE SAID HE SAW ABDUCT HOFFA.

FEDERAL SOURCES ALSO SAID THE FBI IS TRYING TO DETERMINE WHETHER HOFFA WAS SLAIN, PACKED INTO AN EMPTY BARREL AND TRUCKED TO NEW JERSEY FOR DISPOSAL IN A GANGLAND BURIAL GROUND.

HOFFA VANISHED JULY 30 AFTER TELLING HIS FAMILY HE PLANNED TO MEET THREE MEN FOR LUNCH AT A SUBURBAN DETROIT RESTAURANT.

AUTHORITIES SAID A MAN TOLD THEM HE SAW THREE MEN KIDNAP HOFFA WHILE A SECOND MAN, THEY SAID, TOLD THEM HE KNOWS THE NAMES OF THREE MEN WHO ABDUCTED AND MURDERED HOFFA.

THE THREE MEN WERE IDENTIFIED IN FEDERAL COURT AS SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO, 47, OF PARAMUS, N.J.,; HIS BROTHER, GABRIEL, OF UNION CITY, N.J.; AND THOMAS A. ANDRETTA, 78, OF WASBROUCK HEIGHTS, N.J. ALL THREE WERE IDENTIFIED AS MEMBERS OR EMPLOYES OF TEAMSTERS LOCAL 560 IN UNION CITY.

SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO WAS IDENTIFIED AS AN ASSOCIATE OF ANTHONY "TONY PRO" PROVENZANO, ONE OF THE THREE MEN HOFFA TOLD HIS FAMILY HE WAS GOING TO MEET THE DAY HE DROPPED OUT OF SIGHT.

THE BRIGUGLIO BROTHERS AND ANDRETTA WERE ORDERED THURSDAY BY FEDERAL JUDGE JAMES P. CHURCHILL TO APPEAR TODAY FOR THE LINEUP IN OAKLAND COUNTY, NORTH OF DETROIT, WHERE HOFFA LIVED AND WAS LAST SEEN.

AT THE LINEUP, THE MAN WHO SAID HE WITNESSED HOFFA'S ABDUCTION WILL TRY TO DETERMINE IF THE THREE MEN ARE THE SAME ONES HE SAW JULY 30.

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46 DEC 15 1975

CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

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Hoffex

WT-1

(HOFFA)

DETROIT (UPI) -- THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TODAY DROPPED CHARGES STEMMING FROM A FIASCO THAT DELAYED A WEEKEND IDENTIFICATION LINEUP OF AGAINST THREE NEW JERSEY SUSPECTS IN THE JAMES R. HOFFA DISAPPEARANCE CASE.

U.S. ATTORNEY RALPH B. GUY JR. SAID EARLIER THE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT PRESS THE CHARGES--REFUSAL TO COMPLY WITH A COURT ORDER--BECAUSE THE TRIPLE MEN LATER COOPERATED IN THE LINEUP.

THE LINEUP WAS CONDUCTED TO ALLOW A MYSTERY WITNESS TO DETERMINE IF THE MEN WERE THE SAME ONES HE TOLD AUTHORITIES HE SAW KIDNAP THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE TEAMSTERS INTERNATIONAL UNION LAST JULY.

RESULTS OF THE LINEUP WERE NOT DISCLOSED, BUT GUY SAID HE WOULD TAKE THEM TO A FEDERAL GRAND JURY SOMETIME THIS WEEK.

THE THREE MEN, SALVATORE BRIGAGLIO, 47, HIS BROTHER GABRIEL, 39, AND THOMAS A. ANDRETTA, 38, WERE INVOLVED IN SCUFFLES WITH FEDERAL MARSHALS SATURDAY DURING THE COURT-ORDERED LINEUP AT THE OAKLAND COUNTY JAIL.

UPI 12-08 09:47 PES

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46 DEC 15 1975

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70 DEC 15 1975

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Hoffa Search Plan Scrapped

By William Claiborne
Washington Post Staff Writer

NEW YORK, Dec. 8—Federal investigators scrapped plans to excavate a 40-acre garbage dump in Jersey City, N.J., today while they looked for further leads on a possible burial site of former Teamsters union President James R. Hoffa.

The official reason given for the postponement of the search was that FBI agents were fearful that bulldozers would touch off combustible methane gas in the dump, which lies along the Hackensack River in Hudson County.

The real reason, according to a source in the U.S. Organized Crime Task Force in Newark, is that the FBI is taking a closer look at an informant's secondhand report that Hoffa may be buried in the dump.

The garbage dump came under scrutiny after an unidentified witness told a federal grand jury in Detroit that Hoffa may have been murdered near his suburban Detroit home July 30, stuffed in a 55-gallon drum and trucked elsewhere, possibly to New Jersey, for burial. The witness, who was in prison at the time of Hoffa's disappearance, said he heard the execution story from another man, federal investigators said.

As a result of the witness' testimony, a U.S. magistrate in Newark last week issued search warrants for the dump and for the filing cabinents of Salvatore (Sally Bugs) Briguglio, 47, of Paramus, N.J., business agent of Teamsters Local 560 in Union City, N.J.

Last week, Briguglio, described by New Jersey authorities as a "right-hand man" for former Teamsters' local Prssident Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano, was summoned to Pontiac, Mich., for a lineup appearance before a witness who allegedly saw the Hoffa abduction.

Provenzano, who authorities describe as a "capo" in the Vito Genevese family of the Mafia, appeared briefly before the Detroit grand jury investigating Hoffa's disappearance, and reportedly took the Fifth Amendment.

Briguglio served 14 months on a federal conviction of counterfeiting $250,000 in currency and postage stamps.

Also appearing in the Pontiac lineup were Briguglio's brother, Gabriel, described by federal authorities as a lower-echelon "muscleman" for Local 560, and Thomas Andretta, 38, a reputed mob enforcer for Joseph (Bayonne Joe) Zicarelli.

William Bufalino Sr., a Teamster lawyer in Detroit, described all three of the New Jersey men as being "associated" with Local 560 in Union City, although a government source said their connections with the union were informal.

The three New Jersey men were released in Detroit immediately after their lineup appearance Saturday, and U.S. Attorney Ralph Guy Jr. said he would present the results of the lineup to the grand jury this week.

None of the three could be reached Sunday or today, either at the Teamsters local or at their homes.

Provenzano, who was imprisoned with Hoffa in Lewisburg federal penitentiary in Pennsylvania while serving a term for extortion, lives in Hallendale, Fla. Last month, at a testimonal dinner at the Americana Hotel here, 1,500 Teamsters and friends turned out to celebrate the end of Provenzano's parole and his eligibility to re-enter the union as an official.

Teamsters officials in Detroit have said that Provenzano was one of three men Hoffa planned to meet the day he disappeared. They also have said that Provenzano and Hoffa argued bitterly in the Lewisburg prison over the use of Teamster pension funds, and that Provenzano vowed to thwart Hoffa's planned comeback in the union's leadership.

The other men reportedly scheduled to meet with Hoffa July 30 were Detroit Mafia capo Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacolone, a friend of Hoffa, and Hoffa's foster son, Charles O'Brien.

Strike force officials in Newark refused to say why attention centered on the Jersey City garbage dump, one of many along the Hackensack River. However, they noted that the search warrant bears the name of the dump's former operator, Philip (Brother) Muscato, 41, of Lauderhill, Fla., a reputed associate of Provenzano and Salvatore Briguglio.

The FBI and officials of the strike force acknowledged today they have had the dump under surveillance.

The Washington Post
12-9-75
A-3

FBI CLIPPING
DATED 12-9-75
FROM Washington Post News Service
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46 DEC 15 1975

70 DEC 15 1975

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Dump to Be Searched for Hoffa

Keeping a high-ranking Mafia captain who has turned government informer under tight security, the Justice Department said yesterday it would soon begin digging up a Jersey City garbage dump in search of James R. Hoffa's body.

Related Story Page 13

Meanwhile an official of Union City's Teamsters Union Local 560, Stephan Andretta of Little Ferry, was ordered jailed by a federal judge for refusing to tell a federal grand jury in Detroit where he was on July 30, the day Hoffa disappeared.

Three Local 560 officials including Andretta's brother, Thomas, of Hasbrouck Heights, and the local's secretary-treasurer and former President, Anthony 'Tony Pro' Provenzano, have come under intensive investigation in the Hoffa kidnapping.

Two days ago, a mystery man walked into the federal courthouse in Newark and told Justice Department officials he had information that could lead them to the body of Hoffa.

The FBI had previously obtained a search warrant for the dump after another government informer in Detroit told a grand jury there that Hoffa's body was shipped in a barrell of pickles and buried at Brother Moscato's dump in Jersey City, located at Route 440 under the Pulaski Skyway.

Faugno Named

The search warrant was originally drawn up authorizing the FBI to look for the body of Armand Faugno, a Hudson County loanshark who disappeared three years ago.

Yesterday, after listening to the Mafia figure, Robert Stewart, a member of the Justice Department's Organized Crime Strike Force in Newark, asked a federal judge for an extension of the search warrant and in an affidavit stated within the past 24 hours, it has received information from a person whose information has proved reliable in the past.

Previously an FBI spokesman had said that a search had not started because of the size of the ~~jump area.~~ "The dump encompasses some 60 acres. The government has surveyed the area and has undertaken to obtain the equipment necessary to conduct the search."

The FBI refused to say when the digging would begin, but it's expected that they will use equipment borrowed from the Jersey City Department of Public Works.

Informed sources have reportedly said that the mystery man in Newark has stated that Hoffa's body may be in the dump encased in a pickle barrel filled with brine. That information matched information given to the Detroit federal grand jury earlier this month by an informer there.

The informer was taken before a federal judge where an attorney, Stephan Greenberg of Newark, was appointed for him. He was later whisked out of the building by a squad of U.S. marshals, but plans to fly him to Detroit were cancelled for security reasons.

Extension Sought

At the same time the government was seeking an extension for search warrant in Newark, a federal judge in Detroit ordered Stephen Andretta jailed until he decides to tell all to a grand jury.

Despite his protests, a judge ruled two days ago that Andretta had to accept the government's offer of immunity for prosecution in exchange for his testimony.

Yesterday, when hauled before the grand jury, Robert Ozer, head of the federal Strike Force in Detroit, led off the questioning by asking Andretta his whereabouts on the day Hoffa disappeared.

He responded by reading a short statement saying that he wanted to consult with his Detroit Attorney William Buffalino. Buffalino, who is a Detroit Teamsters official, was taken to the hospital several days ago suffering from a possible heart attack.

Andretta repeated the statement over and over to each of Ozer's questions during the 10-minute session before he was brought to court and jailed.

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PAGE 1

THE DISPATCH
UNION CITY, N.J.

Date: 12/12/75
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Editor: HENRY G. AVERY
Title: Hoffex

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Submitting Office: NEWARK, N.J.

☐ Being Investigated

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Andretta's brother, Thomas, and two other Local 560 officials, Salvatore Briguglio of Paramus, and his brother Gabriel of East Rutherford, were supposedly named by the government informer in Detroit as the men who abducted Hoffa and later killed him.

All three are friends of Provenzano, whose latest bout with the law came three days ago when a federal grand jury in New York City indicted him and two other men on charge of conspiring to arrange a $2 million Teamster pension fund loan for a 13 per cent kickback.

Provenzano and Hoffa reportedly had a falling out when both men were serving jail sentences in a federal prison. Provenzano reportedly wanted to derail Hoffa's attempt to once again take over as president of the Teamsters Union while he made his own comeback for union power.

Thomas Andretta and the Briguglio brothers were ordered before a police lineup this past Saturday by a federal judge.

Reliable sources in Detroit said that an independent eyewitness to the Hoffa kidnaping had identified one of the men, but U.S. Attorney Ralph Guy countered by saying he saw no indictments in the immediate future.

Justice Department officials in Washington, meanwhile, said they were strongly considering a wide-ranging probe of the entire Teamsters Union, its pension fund, and its supposed connection with organized crime.

RICHARD VEZZA



HELD IN CONTEMPT — New Jersey Teamster Stephen Andretta (right) is led to a federal holding cell in the U.S. Courthouse in Detroit yesterday morning after he was found in contempt of court after he refused to answer questions posed by a federal grand jury investigating the disappearance of James R. Hoffa.

0-20 (Rev. 8-5-74)

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A02S
R A
HOFFA 12-18
DAY LD

DETROIT (UPI) -- FEDERAL AUTHORITIES REFUSED COMMENT TODAY ON A REPORT A WITNESS SAW MISSING FORMER TEAMSTERS UNION BOSS JAMES HOFFA IN THE BACK SEAT OF A CAR -- HIS HANDS BEHIND HIM AND APPARENTLY SHOUTING -- ON THE DAY HE VANISHED.

THE REPORT, BY A DETROIT RADIO STATION, SAID ONE OF THE THREE MEN WITH HOFFA WAS HIS SELF-DESCRIBED FOSTER SON, CHARLES "CHUCKIE" O'BRIEN, A TEAMSTERS UNION OFFICIAL IN FLORIDA AND A KEY FIGURE IN THE CASE.

FEDERAL SOURCES SAID FBI AGENTS WERE INVESTIGATING THE REPORT BUT REFUSED TO ELABORATE.

THE RADIO QUOTED FEDERAL SOURCES AS SAYING THE WITNESS WAS ONE OF TWO WHO VIEWED THREE NEW JERSEY SUSPECTS DURING AN 85-MINUTE IDENTIFICATION LINEUP DEC. 5.

THE RESULTS OF THE LINEUP HAVE NOT BEEN DISCLOSED.

THE WITNESS REPORTEDLY TOLD AUTHORITIES HE WATCHED HOFFA, WHO VANISHED JULY 30 FROM OUTSIDE A SUBURBAN DETROIT RESTAURANT, GET INTO THE REAR SEAT OF A CAR. HE REPORTEDLY SAID O'BRIEN WAS SEATED IN THE FRONT SEAT AND THAT HOFFA APPARENTLY WAS SHOUTING AT HIM.

THE WITNESS, WHO SAID HE KNEW HOFFA AND O'BRIEN FROM "PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE," ALSO WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID HE DID NOT RECOGNIZE THE OTHER TWO MEN IN THE CAR, BUT THAT THEY WERE WEARING "UNUSUAL GLASSES."

EARLIER, FEDERAL SOURCES SAID THEY WERE INVESTIGATING O'BRIEN'S ACTIVITIES ON THE DAY HOFFA DISAPPEARED. O'BRIEN ALREADY HAS SAID HE WAS DRIVING A BORROWED CAR IN THE AREA AT THE TIME.

HOFFA'S SON, ATTORNEY JAMES P. HOFFA, ACCUSED O'BRIEN OF PLAYING A ROLE IN THE DISAPPEARANCE. THE FBI HAS CONFISCATED THE CAR O'BRIEN WAS DRIVING THAT DAY.

9-6-0052-A

FEDERAL SOURCES SAID TRAINED DOGS DETECTED HOFFA'S SCENT IN THE BACK SEAT AND TRUNK OF THE CAR.

NOT RECORDED

A FEDERAL GRAND JURY PROBING THE CASE IS IN RECESS UNTIL NEXT WEEK, BUT A NEW JERSEY MAN FOUND GUILTY OF CONTEMPT FOR REFUSING TO TESTIFY UNDER IMMUNITY LAST WEEK WAS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR TODAY IN COURT.

STEPHEN ANDRETTA, 40, OF LITTLE FERRY, N.J., WAS JAILED LAST THURSDAY. HE HAS ASKED A FEDERAL COURT TO REVIEW THE CONTEMPT CITATION. DISTRICT JUDGE RALPH FREEMAN, WHO CITED HIM FOR CONTEMPT, AGREED TO CONSIDER THE REQUEST TODAY.

HIS BROTHER, THOMAS ANDRETTA, AND SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO, 47, AND HIS BROTHER, ANTHONY, DESCRIBED AS NEW JERSEY TEAMSTERS WITH CLOSE TIES TO ORGANIZED CRIME FIGURES, WERE NAMED IN FEDERAL COURT EARLIER AS SUSPECTS IN THE DISAPPEARANCE OF HOFFA.

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NEW YORK (UPI) -- CLARENCE "CHUCK" MEDLIN, THE ESCAPED CONVICT WHO ALLEGEDLY RECEIVED $5,000 FROM CBS NEWS FOR INFORMATION HE SAID HE HAD ABOUT JAMES R. HOFFA'S BODY, IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN FLOWN TO NEW YORK TO TESTIFY BEFORE A FEDERAL GRAND JURY.

SOURCES SAID MEDLIN'S TESTIMONY WILL NOT CONCERN THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE FORMER TEAMSTERS UNION PRESIDENT IN A DETROIT SUBURB LAST JULY.

MEDLIN, WHO DISAPPEARED FROM TAMPA, FLA., DEC. 5, WAS ARRESTED FIVE DAYS LATER BY FBI AGENTS IN NEW ORLEANS. AGENTS SAID THEY FOUND $3,100 IN HIS HOTEL ROOM.

SOURCES SAID MEDLIN WAS FLOWN HERE FROM NEW ORLEANS IN THE CUSTODY OF FEDERAL MARSHALS AND IS BEING HELD FOR HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE THE GRAND JURY SOMETIME NEXT WEEK.

MEDLIN ALLEGEDLY WAS PAID BY CBS NEWS FOR INFORMATION HE SAID HE HAD ON THE LOCATION OF HOFFA'S BODY AT AN OFFSHORE SITE NEAR KEY WEST, FLA. THE PAYMENT WAS IN THE FORM OF AN ADVANCE TO A FREELANCE WRITER IN RETURN FOR A PROMISE THAT MEDLIN WOULD LEAD A FILM CREW TO THE LOCATION.

CBS HAS SINCE REPORTED THAT IT CALLED OFF THE SEARCH AFTER CONCLUDING THAT MEDLIN'S INFORMATION WAS FALSE. MEDLIN, 49, WAS ARRESTED AFTER A SMALL WEEKLY NEWSPAPER TIPPED THE FBI HE HAD APPROACHED EDITORS WITH A "BIG STORY" ON THE TEAMSTERS.

A WARRANT FOR MEDLIN'S ARREST WAS ISSUED IN RALEIGH, N.C., AFTER HE DISAPPEARED FROM A FEDERAL WORK RELIEF PROGRAM IN GREENSBORO, N.C. HE WAS CONVICTED IN LOUISVILLE, KY., OF TRANSPORTING A STOLEN VEHICLE ACROSS STATE LINES.

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WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

5 to testify in Hoffa probe

By JIM GRAHAM
News Staff Writer

Tomorrow will be the first anniversary of the fateful day former Teamster boss James R. "Jimmy" Hoffa disappeared and probably was killed.

The special federal grand jury that has been in session since last September is still calling witnesses in an effort to unravel the baffling Hoffa mystery.

Five persons were called before the jury yesterday to testify about their knowledge of the whereabouts on July 30 of three men who may have been involved in the Hoffa disappearance.

All of the witnesses were forced to find new attorneys to accompany them to their grand jury visit, since all had originally been represented by Detroit Teamsters attorney William Bufalino and his son, William II.

The Bufalinos were disqualified from representing the witnesses because of a conflict of interest.

The father-son attorney team has represented 12 other grand jury witnesses — most of them called to investigate any New Jersey Teamster connection with the Hoffa disappearance.

The elder Bufalino represents Teamsters Local 560 in New Jersey. The government claimed it was a conflict of interest for him to represent people under suspicion and witnesses being called before the Detroit grand jury to testify about the suspects.

The witnesses called yesterday were:

- Karen Schnabel, personal secretary to Sammy Provenzano, vice-president of New Jersey Local 560 of the Teamsters Union. Sammy Provenzano is a brother of Anthony "Tony Pro" Provenzano, who is one of the persons it is believed Hoffa was scheduled to meet in suburban Detroit the day he disappeared.
- Armand Emanuel Castellito, Local 560 business agent and brother of Anthony Castellito, a former Local 560 official who disappeared in 1961. Anthony Provenzano and Salvatore Briguglio, another suspect in the Hoffa case, were indicted on murder, kidnaping and conspiracy charges in New York last month in connection with that case.
- Paul "Chuck" Ciampi, also a Local 560 business agent.
- Frederick Salvatore Furino, a Local 560 member and an employe of Canny Trucking Co. in Danbury, Conn.
- The fifth witness, a dark, heavy-set man from New York, was not identified and refused to talk with reporters.

Miss Schnabel, Castellito, Ciampi and Furino have been granted immunity by the grand jury in return for information on the July 30 whereabouts of Anthony Provenzano, Briguglio and Steven Andretta.

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) 1D
The Detroit News
Detroit, Michigan

Date: 7/29/76
Edition:
Author: Jim Graham
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Briguglio and his brother, Gabriel, along with Andretta's brother, Thomas, appeared in a court-ordered FBI lineup in Pontiac last Dec. 6. Steven Andretta was jailed 63 days for contempt of court after refusing to answer grand jury questions. He was represented by the Bufalinos.

U.S. Strike Force Attorney Frederick J. Dana spent the day yesterday questioning Miss Schnabel.

During a break in the questioning, Miss Schnabel called the grand jury questioning "ridiculous" and said she did not believe she had any information that would be helpful to the jury's investigation.

She refused to reveal what questions she was asked. She was accompanied to the grand jury hearing by Detroit attorney Ivan Barris.

Castellito, Ciampi and Furino were represented by Detroit attorney Charles Brown, who yesterday sought to have the men's grand jury subpenas quashed until it was learned whether the questions they would be asked were based on information gathered from illegal wiretaps.

In a hearing before Judge Fred W. Kaess, Dana declared that wiretaps were not used as the basis for any questions the men will be asked.

None of the men were questioned by the grand jury yesterday and were ordered to appear for questioning today.

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Jack Anderson and Les Whitten

Hoffa 'Anniversary'

It was a year ago today that James R. Hoffa, the tempestuous Teamster, disappeared without a trace from the Detroit environs. Federal investigators have told us that Hoffa was murdered. They claim to know who did it and why. All they lack is the evidence.

But part of the story can now be told. It's a story of violence that began after Hoffa's release from prison in 1971. His sentence for mail fraud and jury tampering was commuted by President Nixon.

Under the terms of his release, Hoffa was supposed to stay out of Teamsters politics until 1980. But the moment he hit the streets, he began maneuvering to return to power.

His power base was Detroit's notorious Teamsters Local 299. Hoffa slugged his way to the top of the local which he used as a base for taking over Teamsters International.

He brought two henchmen, Frank E. Fitzsimmons and Dave Johnson, to power with him. When Hoffa was locked in the slammer, he left Fitzsimmons as caretaker of the international and Johnson in charge of Local 299.

Fitzsimmons double-crossed Hoffa and took over as president of the Teamsters. Johnson remained loyal to Hoffa. Another figure in the backstage drama, Roland McMaster, joined the Fitzsimmons forces.

McMaster is a strong-arm specialist who operates on both sides of the law. Ten years ago, he served a prison stretch for accepting a protection payoff. He has been indicted twice for violating labor laws.

These former associates became bitter rivals after Hoffa got out of prison. His return to Detroit was followed by a series of violent incidents — bomb explosions, shotgun blasts, brutal beatings — which investigators say were intended to discourage him from resuming his Teamsters activities.

Johnson, as president of Local 299, was hit by a round of violence. His office windows were shattered by shotgun blasts. His cabin cruiser was bombed in a Michigan harbor. His union meetings frequently were disrupted.

We have established that at least four of McMaster's goons were present at these meetings. We got admissions from three of them that they were on hand at the time of the disruptions. The same men also are under investigation by a Pittsburgh grand jury. Indictments are expected against some.

McMaster denied to our reporters that he was trying to keep Hoffa out of the union but admitted attending meetings that were disrupted. The plot, according to our sources, was to knock Johnson out of power in Local 299 and thereby, to block Hoffa's comeback.

Johnson had pledged to appoint Hoffa to a high position in Local 299 if the courts would permit it. Significantly, Attorney General Edward H. Levi had advised President Ford that the clause restricting Hoffa's union activities appeared illegal.

Hoffa seemed to be close to resuming full control of Local 299 when he disappeared. At one point, he had said he would accept the nomination for president of the local. If he won, Hoffa said he would let Johnson serve in his place until he legally could take office.

This move was blocked by the government and a compromise was struck last year. Johnson ran for the presidency but accepted Fitzsimmons' son, Richard, as his vice president.

McMaster challenged Johnson for the presidency, but Frank Fitzsimmons ordered McMaster to stay out of the race.

But the compromise — teaming Hoffa's man Johnson and Fitzsimmons' son Richard, didn't last. The violence continued on both sides. On July 10, 1975, Richard Fitzsimmons' union car was blown up outside a Detroit bar. Frank Fitzsimmons was reported to be beside himself with fury.

Twenty days later, Hoffa disappeared. Today, Johnson is no longer president of Local 299. With his friend gone, it no longer matters to Johnson. But he had a final word about the violence he had been through.

"McMaster has been harassing me for years," said Johnson. The violence in Local 299 abruptly ended after Hoffa's disappearance.

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NOT RECORDED
SEP 3 1976

The Washington Post D-15
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 7-30-76

6-MM File 9-60052

0-19 (Rev. 5-5-75)

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Report: Probers Know Hoffa Was Strangled

NEW YORK (AP) — Federal investigators have information that former Teamsters Union boss James Hoffa was strangled and they soon will have enough evidence for indictments, according to a national magazine.

Investigators believe Hoffa was murdered July 30, 1974, the day he disappeared after leaving a suburban Detroit restaurant, Newsweek said.

The murder was meticulously planned and executed by killers from outside Michigan, Newsweek said.

It said federal investigators are satisfied that Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacolone, a reputed Detroit mobster, and Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano, a New Jersey Teamsters official, were not present.

Newsweek said Charles L. (Chuckie) O'Brien, 42, regarded as Hoffa's foster son, had unwittingly set Hoffa up and was outraged with himself for having done so.

According to the magazine, Hoffa was garroted in the basement of a private residence only four minutes from the restaurant where he was last seen.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A-2
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

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PROBE ENTERS SECOND YEAR

Young Hoffa Waits and Hopes



JAMES P. HOFFA: "The family has resolved to go on. But we miss my father very much."

BY JO THOMAS
Free Press Staff Writer

It was an ordinary July day, hot and sunny, much like the day a year earlier when the father, James R. Hoffa, vanished. In the cool gloom of a downtown restaurant, the son, James P. Hoffa, watched the perfunctory midday movements of diners and waitresses.

"To this day," he said slowly, "I don't believe it happened."

YOUNG HOFFA IS fair-haired and pink-cheeked, and on this day his face was composed, much as it was when he was the relatively unknown attorney son of the fire-breathing labor leader — before the events of last July 30 wrenched him into the daily scrutiny of the press, from whom he would not hide his fear, his agony, and finally once his tears.

It is months now since young Hoffa, 33, held daily press briefings outside the Hoffas' Lake Orion home, where the family kept watch, hour after hour, hoping for word.

He has returned to the private practice of law, mostly labor law, representing local unions, including Teamster locals.

The elder Hoffa's wife, Josephine, has completed the second of the cataract operations she was scheduled to have before her husband vanished, and "she's in better spirits," her son reported.

"The family has resolved to go on," young Hoffa said. "But we miss my father very much."

Then quietly, like a man discussing someone else's father, young Hoffa talked about the disappearance of the former Teamsters president. He used the word "abduction" but could not seem to bring himself to use the word "murder." He has said it in public: He believes his father is dead. That, apparently, suffices.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) 1A
Detroit Free Press
Detroit, Michigan

1-74

Date: 8/1/76
Edition:
Author: Jo Thomas
Editor: Joe H. Stroud
Title:
HOFFEX
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Classification: 79-359
Submitting Office: Detroit

☐ Being Investigated

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46 SEP 3 1976

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"I still believe it was related — directly or indirectly — to his role in the union," young Hoffa said.

Beyond this, he would not go, as close-mouthed as a man on a tightrope, balanced between a dangerous past and an uncertain future.

Like Hoffa's friends, the son had watched his father struggling like a caged hawk against the parole restrictions that barred him from a comeback in the Teamsters Union he built and ran.

At the time Hoffa vanished, en route to what he thought was a peace meeting with his old enemy Anthony Provenzano, he believed the cage door was about to open.

The old man had made it clear that, once free, he intended to do battle with those who were still his enemies. And dark rumors were circulating in the union and in the underworld that Hoffa would stop at nothing.

It was Hoffa who was stopped, but at this year's Teamsters convention, his boldness was not forgiven. His photograph was absent. His family was consigned to the visitors gallery.

Only one resolution even spoke his name. The king was dead — but no one mentioned it. The spotlight stayed on his successor, Frank Fitzsimmons. Long live the king.

There are many who have not forgotten, who still call the Hoffa family and send letters containing information they hope will help find Hoffa's slayers.

"The police and the FBI are still trying very hard to solve the crime," young Hoffa said. "I'm very satisfied with the investigation, and I hope they persist until the people are put in jail."

The $300,000 reward offered by the family still awaits anyone who supplies information leading to the conviction of those responsible for Hoffa's disappearance.

AND TIPS continue to flow in, as they have all during the investigation; tips from well-meaning psychics as well as "legitimate tips from people who felt they'd seen something and were sincerely trying to help," young Hoffa said.

And he keeps hoping.

But the Hoffa crime has been surrounded by a wall of silence and fear; as tangible as it is invisible.

Everyone close to the case has felt it. A federal grand jury has called scores of witnesses, searching relentlessly for cracks in that wall, but has been unable to bash it down.

"I think they're going to solve the case. I really do," young Hoffa said. During the conversation, he had ordered a light lunch, but he seemed to have little appetite.

"They're really making progress. The tempo seems good. But I think it's going to take a long time."

THE RESTAURANT started to empty. It was an ordinary workday, and the afternoon lay ahead. And out there, somewhere, the men who killed Jimmy Hoffa were still walking around, their power and their cunning evidenced by a crime so improbable and bizarre it was still difficult to believe it happened anyplace but in a nightmare.

James R. Hoffa, one of the nation's most powerful labor leaders, with one of the best-known faces, disappeared without a trace, taken in broad daylight from a crowded parking lot in front of the Machus Red Fox restaurant, where there were undoubtedly dozens of eyes, yet pitifully few witnesses.

It is a chain of events that haunts his son, who searches the dog-eared facts for some new meaning.

"Why the Red Fox? Why the parking lot?" young Hoffa asked, walking out the door of the restaurant.

"Why? Why? Why?"

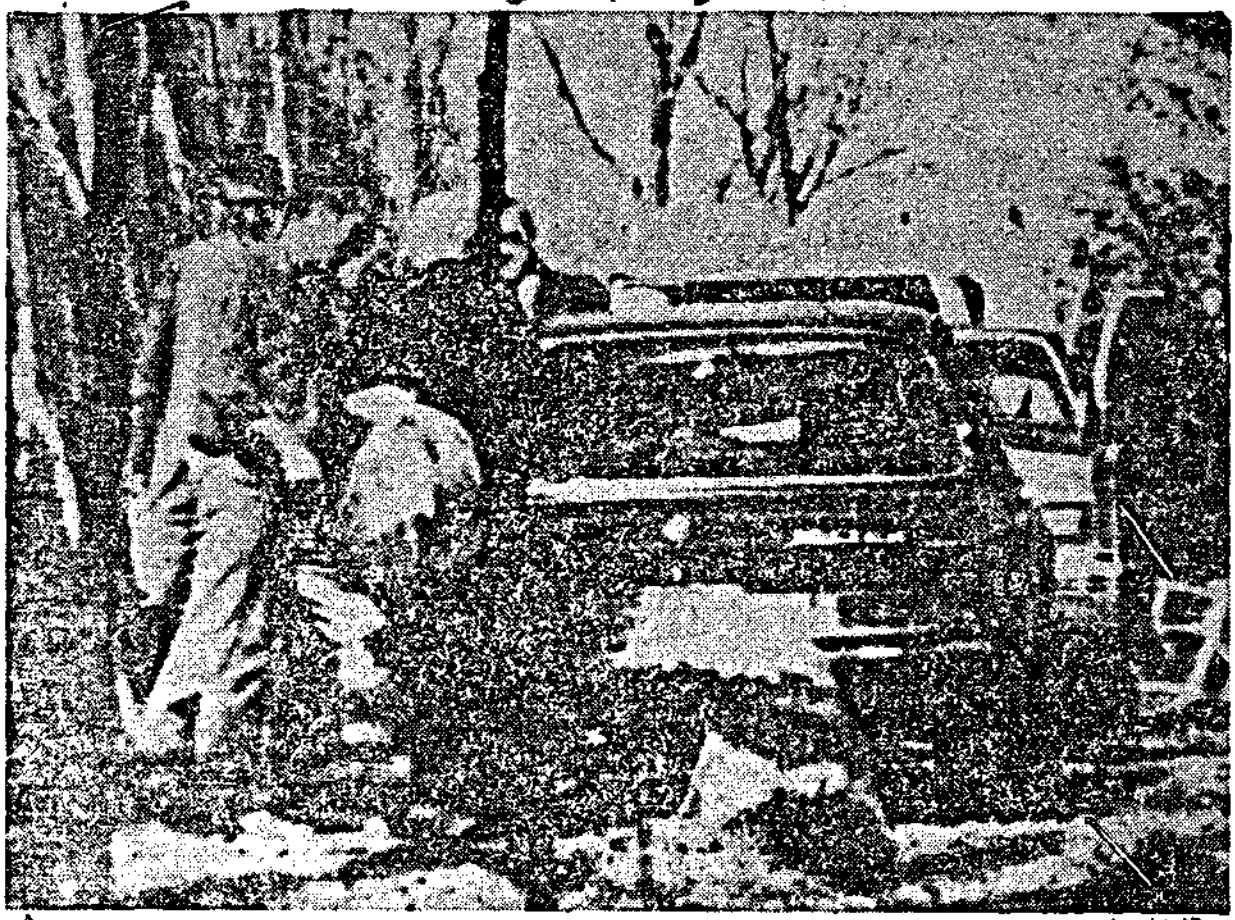
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SKELETON FOUND: JIMMY HOFFA?



—Associated Press

Police in Wayne County, Pa., use a plastic bag to remove skeletal remains of a body discovered in a wooded area near the town of Bethany early this week which some authorities say may be that of former Teamsters boss Jimmy Hoffa. Bethany is northeast of Scranton. Word of the find leaked out early today after officials contacted members of the Hoffa family. At far left is Wayne County Coroner Robert F. Jennings, who said the remains have been taken to New York for examination and dental comparisons. (Story on A-5).

Post ____
Washington Star-News A-1
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 10/28/77

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FBI/DOJ

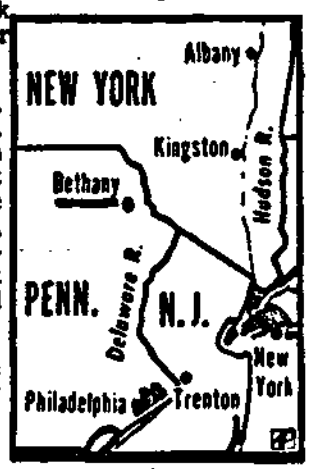
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IS PENNSYLVANIA BODY HOFFA'S?

New York Times News Service

The coroner of a rural Pennsylvania county says he is asking the FBI for the dental charts of James R. Hoffa, missing former president of the Teamsters union, in hopes of identifying a skeleton found Monday in thick underbrush near Bethany, Pa.



Robert F. Jennings, Wayne County coroner, said he spoke with Hoffa's son, James, last night and compared the skeleton's height, hair, and expensive gold dental work with what James P. Hoffa could tell him.

An FBI spokesman in Detroit said the agency would send the dental charts and cooperate in every way but that it had not opened a formal inquiry on this.

Jennings said the skeleton was discovered by a hunter pursuing a wounded wild turkey through underbrush. The skeleton, wrapped in plastic, had been partly dismembered and was not clothed, he said.

Jennings said that because of the extensive gold dental work, "we felt right from the beginning it had to be a well-to-do person."

He called for assistance Tuesday from Dr. Dominick J. DiMaio, chief medical examiner in New York City. The body was taken there, Jennings said, and the examination and dental charts were completed yesterday.

Jennings said the examination had shown that the skeleton was of a white male between 55 and 60, from 5 feet 5 to 5 feet 7 inches tall. Hoffa was 62 when he disappeared in 1975. He was 5 feet, 5½ inches tall. Hoffa also had extensive gold dental work.

Jennings said he had not thought immediately that the skeleton might be that of Hoffa, but the dismemberment led him to believe it might be that of the victim of a gangland slaying.

He said he had called Hoffa's son after inquiries from reporters about the identity of the skeleton.

The FBI has conducted a nationwide investigation into Hoffa's disappearance that has brought dozens of witnesses before a federal grand jury in Detroit and prompted thousands of tips about his whereabouts. FBI agents have verified other identities for a number of bodies initially thought to be that of Hoffa.

Hoffa disappeared July 30, 1975, from the parking lot of a Bloomfield Hills, Mich., restaurant.

Bethany is in northeastern Pennsylvania near Scranton.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A-5
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 10/28/77

FBI/DOJ

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HOFFA CASE FIGURE SLAIN IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK (UPI) — A New Jersey Teamsters official once suspected of involvement in the 1975 disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa was gunned down gangland-style in Manhattan's Little Italy section last night, police said.

Witnesses told police two unidentified men shot Salvatore Briguglio six times in the face and chest around 11:30 p.m. as he stood in the rain in front of a restaurant.

Briguglio, 48, of Westwood, N.J., business agent for Teamsters Local 560, died instantly, police said, and the two gunmen sped off in a car.

In 1975 Briguglio, his brother, Gabriel, and seven associates were called before a Newark, N.J., federal grand jury investigating Hoffa's disappearance earlier that year.

At the time, authorities considered the Briguglio brothers suspects in Hoffa's apparent kidnapping and murder. The two brothers later refused to testify before the panel. Hoffa has not been found.

Briguglio's local was once headed by Anthony "Tony Pro" Provenzano, now on trial in U.S. District Court in Manhattan on conspiracy charges involving kickbacks stemming from a $2.3 million mortgage loan.

The Washington Post _____
Washington Star-News A-5
Daily News (New York) _____
The New York Times _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
The Los Angeles Times _____

Date 3-22-78

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N.J. Teamster Official Killed by Two Gunmen

A-8

NEW YORK—Salvatore Briguglio, a mob-connected New Jersey Teamster official and a central figure in the disappearance of former Teamster boss, Jimmy Hoffa, was executed by two gunmen late Tuesday outside a Little Italy restaurant.

Detectives said they were studying several possible motives for the shooting. "In a case like this, you just don't jump in to solve the case in two minutes," one detective said. "We have to determine which of the things Briguglio did in his life came back to haunt him."

Briguglio, 48, of Westwood, N.J., a business agent of Teamster Local 560 in Union City, N.J., was killed at 11:30 p.m. by two unidentified men who knocked him down outside Benito's II Restaurant and shot him five times in the head and once in the chest. The two gunmen walked briskly to their car, which was parked one block away, and drove off. Police said they questioned several witnesses to the shooting, but none got a good look at the gunmen.

[redacted]

The Washington Post A-8
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 3-23-78

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Suspects in Hoffa's Disappearance Are Really Feeling the Heat

HOFFEX

By Jonathan Kwitny

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Ever since Jimmy Hoffa disappeared and presumably was murdered in 1975, there have been periodic reports of breakthroughs in the investigation.

Still, the case is no closer to official resolution now than it was back in 1975. That assessment, at least, comes from interviews with law enforcement officers in Detroit, New York, New Jersey and Washington.

The government has focused on eight prime suspects in the case. The evidence against them is all circumstantial and hearsay — clearly insufficient to bring murder convictions.

Nevertheless, the Justice Department is determined to show the Mafia and its friends that they can't murder public figures with impunity, sources say. The eight suspects therefore have all received tough treatment from law enforcers, and many illicit businesses are suffering.

SINCE HOFFA'S disappearance, four of the eight suspects have been convicted of felonies unrelated to the former Teamster leader's disappearance. Three others have come under such intensive investigation for various crimes that their daily routines have been upset. And the eighth, who was under heavy pressure to talk to federal agents, was murdered March 21, apparently by gangsters.

"I'll bet they're sorry now they ever decided to kill Hoffa," a veteran FBI man says, echoing the sentiments of other officials.

Indeed, the recent criminal-prosecution problems of the suspects all apparently grew out of the Hoffa investigation or were influenced by it. The Hoffa crime, ironically, seems to have brought about just what the mob no doubt hoped the murder would prevent — the disruption of its rackets.

The heat from investigators seems likely to continue until someone provides testimony that can weave the existing evidence of Hoffa's disappearance into a hard case. That could happen any time, sources say, but it hasn't happened yet.

JIMMY HOFFA disappeared in Detroit on July 30, 1975. He had left word with several people that he was on his way to a meeting with two Teamster associates, both considered members of the Mafia. It is believed that he went to the meeting to seek the pair's support for his return to the union presidency in 1976.

The mob opposed Hoffa's return because he believed in central control; after he left office, union power was regionalized, giving regional crime families direct access to it. Hoffa also threatened to campaign for office by exposing criminal activity in the union. He was last seen alive near the Red Fox restaurant in suburban Birmingham.

Published reports have speculated that Hoffa's meeting was to be in the restaurant, but this is belied by his casual attire (it's a dressy place) and by his failure to go inside. The government theory — and it is only that — is that he knew he was to be picked up at the restaurant and taken to a spot nearby, and that he would have entered a car only with someone he knew intimately.

As to a murder scene, investigators have speculated about one possible location: the secluded home of an industrialist not far from the restaurant. The industrialist, himself not a suspect, was a longtime friend of the Hoffas. The industrialist and his wife were out dining that afternoon in the very restaurant where Hoffa was picked up, sources say.

The investigation that followed Hoffa's disappearance turned up the eight suspects:

Anthony "Tony Pro" Provenzano. Provenzano is a high-ranking figure in the old Genovese Mafia family and also one of the most powerful Teamster officials in the country. With his two brothers, he has headed Teamster Local 560 in Union City, N.J., since 1961.

He presides over vast labor rackets. Perhaps no other Mafia member has ever risen so high in a large, legitimate institution. Provenzano is one of the two men Hoffa said he was meeting on the day he disappeared. The other man named by Hoffa was Anthony Giacalone.

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The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A-9
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 6-13-78

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FBI/DOJ

Anthony "Tony Jack" Giacalone. A Detroit friend of Provenzano, Giacalone is close to the Teamsters but has no official position with the union. Investigators of Hoffa's disappearance searched telephone toll records and found an extraordinary surge in calls between Local 560 and Giacalone's telephones shortly before the Teamster leader dropped out of sight.

Both Giacalone and Provenzano have denied having had an appointment with Hoffa. Both have alibis for the time of the presumed murder.

Russell Bufalino. Bufalino, 74, is a leading Mafia godfather, running a crime family in upstate New York and Pennsylvania. He is believed by some to have been caretaker of Provenzano's Mafia family, or parts of it, when death (natural) and illness caused a leadership vacuum a few years ago.

A Mafia execution of Hoffa probably would have required Bufalino's knowledge, some lawmen say, especially as he had long connections to Hoffa, Provenzano and the Teamsters. Moreover, he was in Detroit about the time of Hoffa's disappearance.

Charles "Chucky" O'Brien. O'Brien lived with the Hoffa family much of his life. The holder of various Teamster jobs, O'Brien disappeared from public view for nearly a week after Hoffa vanished. It was subsequently disclosed that during that period he showed up briefly at the Hoffa home and had a confrontation with Hoffa's son, James P. Hoffa.

Frank Sheeran. A Wilmington, Del., Teamster leader, Sheeran has a long record of arrests for charges from gambling to murder, but only one conviction — in 1974 for carrying a concealed weapon. Investigators learned that he had driven Russell Bufalino to Detroit. Questioned before the grand jury, he invoked his constitutional privilege not to answer.

Salvatore "Sally Bugs" Briguglio, Gabriel Briguglio and Thomas Andretta. These three men became suspects a few weeks after the Hoffa disappearance when Ralph "Little Ralphie" Picardo, a prisoner being held at a New Jersey state hospital after being sentenced to 20 years for murder, was persuaded to become a government informant. Picardo had been part of the close-knit criminal group that operated out of Local 560.

Picardo told authorities that Stephen Andretta, a Local 560 employee, had visited him a few days after Hoffa vanished. According to Picardo, Stephen Andretta bragged that his brother, Thomas, and the two Briguglio brothers, all part of the Local 560 crowd, had gone to Detroit and killed Hoffa. Picardo said he hadn't been given any details about the murder.

SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO was murdered March 21, and the case remains unsolved.

Although the evidence against the surviving suspects in the Hoffa case is considered insufficent for indictments, a Justice Department official says, "You can't let it pass. You focus in on them, and if legitimate cases can be made, they should be made. That's the only way you can crack that goddamn thing." And many cases are being made.

Among the seven suspects, Anthony Provenzano is getting the most attention from law enforcers. Considered the prime suspect by many sources, he has run into a prosecutorial blitzkrieg. Largely as a result of the Hoffa investigation, Provenzano was indicted in December 1975 with a businessman friend in an 18-month-old kickback case that had been considered rather weak. But prosecutors persisted, and Provenzano and his friend were convicted March 25, with Ralph Picardo providing testimony.

Still unsentenced in that case, Provenzano is currently on trial for the 1961 murder of Anthony Castellito, whom he succeeded as leader of Local 560. Salvatore Briguglio had been a co-defendant in the case. Until Briguglio was murdered, FBI agents thought he was the Hoffa suspect most likely to break down and talk: With two prior felony convictions, he faced long prison terms in the many cases in which he was being investigated.

THINGS HAVEN'T BEEN easy for the other Hoffa suspects. The two Briguglios and Thomas Andretta, all implicated by Ralph Picardo, were called before a grand jury, and they invoked the Fifth Amendment. Stephen Andretta, who allegedly bragged to Picardo of the trio's involvement, was given immunity from prosecution but still wouldn't talk. Finally, after 63 days in jail, he testified. But he apparently didn't incriminate anyone.

The other three suspects, Anthony Giacalone, Russell Bufalino and Charles O'Brien, are all free on appeal bonds, having been sentenced to prison for other crimes. Only the Giacalone case was in the works before the Hoffa affair.

Sheeran hasn't been charged with anything criminal since the Hoffa disappearance, but he is in Tax Court contesting the $2,532 that the Internal Revenue Service wants to charge him for allegedly using a union car for personal business.

BUT FOR THE MAFIA, the implications of the Hoffa case go beyond the individual indictments and legal pressures against the suspects. Perhaps the most severe blow is the pinch the government has put on looting from the Teamsters' huge pension funds. The nearly $1.5 billion Chicago-based Central States fund has clearly stayed under Mafia control despite Labor Department attempts to change its leadership. Nevertheless, the fund's lending policies have come under such scrutiny that hundreds of millions of dollars in prospective income from misuse of the fund's assets have been cut off at least until the heat dies down.

Moreover, a government task force is preparing indictments designed to break up a racket involving New York and New Jersey Teamster pension funds containing hundreds of millions of dollars. The racket had gone largely unnoticed, overshadowed by the well-publicized thefts from the Chicago fund, until the Hoffa inquiry turned investigators toward New Jersey.

ON APRIL 24, Robert C. Stewart, head of the federal strike forces in Buffalo and Newark, gave Congress a 36-page account of current Mafia activity based on control of labor unions. Besides pension-fund looting and sweetheart contracts, he described loan sharking, gambling, fencing stolen goods, passing counterfeit securities, bank fraud, extortion and the control by intimidation of various industries. He indicated that "most of the information" had come from the Hoffa investigation, and he forecast many successful prosecutions.

Though Stewart avoided individual names in his report, referring to "Suspect A," "Suspect B" and so on, his use of specific dates and other facts made the people he was talking about easy to identify.

Provenzano, for example, was clearly "Suspect A."

-20 (Rev. 9-5-79)

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TRENTON, N.J. (AP) -- A FEDERAL GRAND JURY IS INVESTIGATING THE POSSIBILITY THAT FORMER TEAMSTERS BOSS JAMES R. HOFFA WAS MURDERED BECAUSE HE STOOD IN THE WAY OF A LOAN FROM THE TEAMSTERS PENSION FUND WORTH $900,000 IN KICKBACKS TO UNION AND ORGANIZED CRIME FIGURES, TWO NEWSPAPERS REPORTED TODAY. (HOFFEX)

FEDERAL INVESTIGATORS BELIEVE HOFFA MAY HAVE BEEN SLAIN BECAUSE HE REFUSED TO GO ALONG WITH A PROPOSED $9 MILLION LOAN TO FAIRFIELD, N.J., REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER SALVATORE ''SAM'' MALFITANO, THE TRENTON TIMES AND THE WALL STREET JOURNAL REPORTED.

THE LOAN AND ITS POSSIBLE LINK TO HOFFA'S DISAPPEARANCE JULY 30, 1975, ARE THE SUBJECT OF AN ONGOING FEDERAL GRAND JURY INVESTIGATION IN NEWARK, THE NEWSPAPERS SAID.

IN WASHINGTON, HOWEVER, A JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SOURCE WHO HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN THE HOFFA INQUIRY SINCE ITS INCEPTION SAID HE WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE LOAN REPORTED BY THE NEWSPAPERS.

[redacted] file

THE TRENTON TIMES SAID THAT 10 DAYS BEFORE HIS DISAPPEARANCE HOFFA DISCUSSED THE PROPOSED LOAN WITH ANTHONY ''TONY PRO'' PROVENZANO, A NORTHERN NEW JERSEY TEAMSTERS LEADER WHO IS NOW SERVING A 20-YEAR PRISON TERM ON AN UNRELATED MURDER CHARGE.

THE JOURNAL SAID TELEPHONE RECORDS OBTAINED BY FBI AGENTS SHOWED THAT PROVENZANO CALLED HOFFA ON JULY 20, AND THAT INVESTIGATORS HAD LEARNED THAT ONE OF THE SUBJECTS OF THE CONVERSATION WAS THE MALFITANO LOAN PROPOSAL.

IN WASHINGTON, HOWEVER, THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SOURCE SAID THAT AS FAR AS HE KNEW, THERE WERE NO DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN HOFFA AND PROVENZANO ABOUT 10 DAYS BEFORE HOFFA VANISHED.

THE NEWSPAPERS SAID THAT PROVENZANO WANTED TO GRANT THE LOAN FROM THE CENTRAL STATES PENSION FUND BECAUSE MALFITANO ALLEGEDLY PROMISED TO GIVE HIM, OTHER TEAMSTERS OFFICIALS AND ORGANIZED CRIME FIGURES A TOTAL OF $900,000 IN KICKBACKS.

THE ACCOUNTS DID NOT SAY WHY HOFFA TURNED DOWN THE PROPOSAL, AND ADDED THE LOAN DID NOT GO THROUGH AFTER HOFFA'S DEATH APPARENTLY BECAUSE OF FEDERAL PRESSURE.

HOFFA WAS NO LONGER A TEAMSTERS OFFICER BECAUSE OF CONDITIONS OF HIS PAROLE FROM PRISON, BUT HE STILL WIELDED INFLUENCE WITHIN THE UNION.

MALFITANO'S LAWYER, J. BARRY COCOZIELLO, DECLINED COMMENT AND ADVISED HIS CLIENT NOT TO COMMENT ON THE REPORTS.

PROVENZANO, INFURIATED AT HOFFA'S POSITION ON THE LOAN AND FUMING OVER A HISTORY OF PREVIOUS ARGUMENTS WITH HIM, ALLEGEDLY DECIDED TO HAVE HOFFA MURDERED SO THE LOAN WOULD GO THROUGH, THE TRENTON TIMES SAID.

P-NX-0829 1602EDT

NOT RECORDED
25 SEP 30 1980

FBI/DOJ

FBI HQ File 9-L0052

Subject: James R. Hoffa

Public Source Material

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUGUST 3, 1975

FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley has just announced that the FBI has actively entered into the investigation of the disappearance of former Teamsters Union President James R. Hoffa.

Mr. Kelley stated that the FBI has followed developments in this matter very closely since Hoffa's disappearance on Wednesday, July 30, 1975. During the past 24 hours, extortionate communications have been received in connection with the disappearance of Hoffa and, accordingly, the FBI is assuming investigative jurisdiction under the Federal Extortion Statutes.

[redacted]

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Director Sec'y ____

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

[APPROVED BY SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION, DEPT. JUSTICE 8/3/75]

Mr. [redacted]

8.

9- 60052-149

ENCLOSURE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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[redacted]

ON AUGUST 19, 1975 UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL (UPI) RELEASED A PHOTO IN WHICH A PERSON WHO APPEARS TO BE HOFFA IS PUSHING AN APPARENTLY CRIPPLED WHITE MALE IN A WHEEL CHAIR. THIS PHOTOGRAPH RECEIVED EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY WITHIN THE CLEVELAND AREA AND THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

[redacted]

non public source

EX 104

REC 21 9-60052-277

AUG 20 1975

[redacted]

AUG 25 1975

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGA
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 13 1975

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RECENT NEWSPAPER ARTICLES HAVE BEEN QUOTING CHARLES "CHUCKIE" O'BRIEN AS SAYING HE IS WILLING TO TAKE A POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION. ACCORDING TO THE MOST RECENT ARTICLE, O'BRIEN HAS CONTACTED F. LEE BAILEY, PROMINENT CRIMINAL ATTORNEY, AND O'BRIEN STATES HE IS NOW WILLING TO TAKE A POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION AFTER THE FEDERAL GRAND JURY (FGJ) COMPLETES ITS INVESTIGATION OF THE HOFFA DISAPPEARANCE. IT IS NOTED THERE HAS BEEN SPECULATION THAT A FGJ WILL BE ASKED TO LOOK INTO THE DISAPPEARANCE, HOWEVER, NO SPECIFIC DATES HAVE YET BEEN SET.

EX-104

REC-21 9-[illegible]-296

21 AUG 15 1975

TELETYPED TO:

[illegible] 1975

Form A. O. 93 (Rev. Apr. 1973) Search Warrant

[illegible] States District Court

FOR THE

EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

vs.

One 1975 Mercury 4-door automobile, maroon in color, bearing license plate number TMS ~~624~~ 416 gcc (KH)

Docket No.

Case No.

SEARCH WARRANT

To Any Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and any authorized assistant

Affidavit(s) having been made before me by JAMES C. ESPOSITO

that he has reason to believe that { ~~on the person of~~ / on the premises known as } 24000 East Jefferson, St. Clair Shores, or wherever it may be found upon the public roads or parking lots, all within

~~the~~ the Eastern District of Michigan

there is now being concealed certain property, namely

here describe property

a 1975 Mercury 4-door automobile, maroon in color bearing license tag number TMS 416 gcc containing fingerprints and microscopic particles of blood, hair, clothing fibers, or flesh which can be identified as that of a human being or specifically as that of JAMES R. HOFFA, and also containing any physical evidence which indicates where the automobile has been

and as I am satisfied that there is probable cause to believe that the property so described is being concealed on the person or premises above described and that grounds for application for issuance of the search warrant exist as stated in the supporting affidavit(s).

You are hereby commanded to search within a period of ten days (not to exceed 10 days) the person or place named for the property specified, serving this warrant and making the search { ~~(in the daytime — 6:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M.)~~ / at any time in the day or night* } and if the property be found there to seize it, leaving a copy of this warrant and receipt for the property taken, and prepare a written inventory of the property seized and promptly return this warrant and bring the property before Barbara K. Hackett as required by law.

Federal judge or magistrate

Dated this 8th day of August, 1975

9:15 P.M.

Barbara K. Hackett

Judge (Federal or State Court of Record) or Federal Magistrate

*The Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure provide: "The warrant shall be served in the daytime, unless the issuing authority, by appropriate provision in the warrant, and for reasonable cause shown, authorizes its execution at times other than daytime." (Rule 41(c)). A statement of grounds for reasonable cause should be made in the affidavit(s) if a search is to be authorized "at any time day or night" pursuant to Rule 41(c).

0-20 (Rev. 8-5-74)

(1)

JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA
MISSING PERSON

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Dep. AD Inv. ____
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Washington Star-News
2/4/75, Page A-8

Mob-Union Dealings Eyed in Hoffa Case

Detroit News

Former Teamsters President James R. Hoffa, who has been missing for five days and is feared to be either kidnaped or dead may have been the target of a crossfire between high-level union bosses and organized crime federal and local investigators said today.

The FBI entered the five-day old case yesterday but there were reports that political pressure, "not a sudden discovery of federal jurisdiction" brought the bureau officially into the investigation.

Authorities theorize that Hoffa, readying his return to the tangled political life of the 2.2 million member union, hoped to use revelations about alleged insurance kickbacks and shady pension fund loan schemes to unseat Frank Fitzsimmons from control of the powerful union.

ALTHOUGH HOFFA, while in a federal penitentiary, had hand picked Fitzsimmons to be his successor as international president, they are said to have had a falling-out over Hoffa's plan to regain ascendancy in the union now that he is out of prison.

In recent months, Hoffa was called before a federal grand jury in Detroit looking into possible wrongdoing in his home union, Teamsters Local 299. And sources close to Hoffa said he was seeking any information that could hurt Fitzsimmons and was particularly interested in data which might lead to criminal prosecution of the Teamsters president.

Some federal sources now believe that mobsters or union officials, threatened by Hoffa's plan, may have moved to get the 62-year-old [illegible] out of the way.

Hoffa disappeared Wednesday afternoon from the parking lot of a Bloomfield Township restaurant where he was scheduled to meet with Detroit Mafia kingpin Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, a long-time friend, according to the Hoffa family.

Also, two other business associates Hoffa saw in Pontiac on his way to the restaurant said Hoffa mentioned the names "T.J." "Tony Pro", and Lenny Schultz.

AUTHORITIES SAID those names refer to Giacalone; Anthony Provenzano of New Jersey, a former Teamsters International vice president with whom Hoffa reportedly had a falling-out while the two were in federal prison; and Leonard Schultz, a labor negotiator with strong ties to the Teamsters and an old friend of Giacolone.

Giacalone was indicted May 14 by a federal grand jury in Detroit on charges of defrauding a medical insurance plan covering Teamster members.

See HOFFA, A-8

ENCLOSURE
9-6 0-2 507

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

HOFFA

Continued From A-1

Giacalone is charged with swindling the medical program out of $12,682.40 in connection with a contract which reportedly gave him "something less than $1," of the $95 a day benefit paid for each Teamster patient.

Giacalone is charged with making this agreement with Attorney Kenneth Bernard, then president of Integrated Medical Services (IMF), in exchange for helping IMF sell its plan to the Michigan Conference of Teamsters.

According to a federal source, Hoffa was showing increasing interest of late in the activities of various insurance companies dealing with the Teamsters and in any financial arrangements they may have had with current union officials.

THE SOURCE pointed to recent disclosure of wrongdoings in Teamsters pension fund — particularly the Central, Southeast and Southwest areas pension fund with assets estimated at $1.34 billion. Much of what has been revealed in recent weeks has come from present and former Teamster officials who have gone to federal authorities with information. And Hoffa has been behind the witnesses coming forward, the source said.

Hoffa — barred from union activity until 1988 by terms of a pardon under which former President Richard M. Nixon had him released from prison after Hoffa served nearly 4 years of a 13-year term — apparently believed that he would soon be allowed to reenter union politics.

Hoffa reportedly was told that U.S. Atty. Gen. Edward Levi believed the restriction on his Teamsters activities was unconstitutional and that Levi had so advised President Ford.

THE PRESIDENT, according to Hoffa sources, told Levi, "if we did something that was unfair, then we will have to make it fair."

FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley announced late yesterday that the FBI had taken over jurisdiction of the probe because of "extortionate" demands in connection with Hoffa's disappearance. A close friend of the Hoffa family said they knew of no such threat or ransom demands being taken seriously by law enforcement agencies.

Instead, indications are that intense political pressure brought by Hoffa's family, friends and union officials around the country forced the FBI to move openly into the case.

The FBI actually began working unofficially on the case Thursday morning, one federal agent admitted.

"THERE HAVE BEEN about 12 agents working on this from Thursday through Sunda," he said, "and the Justice Department threw in a man for intelligence early Friday."

"Two of the (FBI) agents were from Detroit but the rest were from anti-rackets divisions around the country and several were from St. Louis. The initial duty was to assist state and township police but they interrogated several people, too."

Another federal source said the FBI intervention in the Hoffa case was "strictly political," and that "numerous legislators" had contacted FBI headquarters about the probe.

The source said both Hoffa's son, James P., a Detroit attorney, and his daughter, Mrs. Barbara Crancer of St. Louis, called both Levi and Kelley in Washington "several times" over the weekend about the case.

In one of her calls, Mrs. Crancer said to Kelley:

"YOU USED 2,000 agents to put my father into jail and up to now have used only two agents to try to find him."

Several hours before the announcement of the FBI's entry into the case, three men identified by Mrs. Crancer as federal agents visited the Hoffa home in Orion township and spent an hour questioning the family.

Although the FBI entered the case based on the "extortionate" threat, federal agents do not believe Hoffa was kidnaped for ransom, federal source said.

FBI agents said Bloomfield Township police told them they had received a call from an unidentified person saying he "had Hoffa" and wanted $500 ransom. They said another anonymous caller had demanded $50,000.

Kelley said that "because extortionist communication" has been received by authorities since the disappearance, the FBI "is assuming investigative jurisdiction" under a federal statute on extortion. But Bloomfield Township Lt. Curt Grennier, who was in charge of a two man local investigation for four days, said:

"BLOOMSFIELDTownship police will maintain jurisdiction in the Hoffa case. We will be working together with the FBI and the state police to solve the disappearance of Hoffa."

Grennier said he met for half an hour late yesterday with "federal" FBI agents to review notes in the case and "find out where each of us stands."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 13 1975

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Telephone Rm. —
Director Sec'y —

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not public source information

SEP 09 1975

[redacted]

not public source information

THE BUREAU IS REFERRED TO TWO ARTICLES, COPIES OF WHICH HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO THE BUREAU, WHICH APPEARED IN "THE DETROIT NEWS"

ISSUES OF AUGUST 7 AND 11, 1975, WRITTEN BY CHARLES ASHMAN, AUTHOR AND BROADCASTER FROM LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, WHO PLANNED TO HAVE HOFFA ON A TELEVISION SHOW IN LOS ANGELES ON AUGUST 11, 1975. THESE ARTICLES CONTAIN SOME INFORMATION ABOUT THE RESTRICTION ON HOFFA'S UNION ACTIVITIES AND REFER TO AN ALLEGED PAYOFF DEAL BETWEEN FITZSIMMONS, JOHN DEAN, AND CHARLES COLSON, FORMER WHITE HOUSE COUNSELLORS, TO KEEP HOFFA OUT OF UNION POLITICS. JOHN N. MITCHELL AND ALEXANDER BUTTERFIELD ARE ALSO MENTIONED AS POSSIBLE PERSONS INVOLVED WITH THE RESTRICTION. ATTORNEY GENERAL LEVI'S NAME IS MENTIONED AS POSSIBLY DISCUSSING THE LEGALITY OF THE RESTRICTION WITH THE WHITE HOUSE. THESE ITEMS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE DISCUSSED WITH HOFFA DURING HIS TELEVISION APPEARANCE IN LOS ANGELES.

[redacted]

not public record information

R

HOFFA (TOPS N22)

DETROIT (AP) -- THE FBI IS INVESTIGATING REPORTS THAT TEAMSTERS PRESIDENT FRANK FITZSIMMONS MET WITH TWO REPUTED MAFIA FIGURES AT A [illegible] RESTAURANT LESS THAN A WEEK BEFORE JIMMY HOFFA DISAPPEARED, SOURCES CLOSE TO THE HOFFA PROBE SAID TODAY.

FITZSIMMONS, THROUGH HIS ATTORNEY ROBERT BAPTISTE OF WASHINGTON, D.C., DENIED ON THURSDAY THAT SUCH A MEETING TOOK PLACE.

SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, THE FBI INTERVIEWED MIKE LARCO, A CO-OWNER OF LARCO'S INN ON DETROIT'S NORTHWEST SIDE, ABOUT REPORTS OF A MEETING BETWEEN FITZSIMMONS AND REPUTED MAFIA FIGURES RAFFAELE ''JIMMY Q'' QUASARANO AND PETER VITALE. THE SOURCES SAID.

THE MEETING REPORTEDLY OCCURRED FOUR OR FIVE DAYS BEFORE HOFFA, FITZSIMMONS' ARCHRIVAL AND PREDECESSOR AS TEAMSTERS CHIEF, DROPPED FROM SIGHT JULY 30. LARCO SAID THE RESTAURANT OWNERS TOLD THE FBI THERE HAD BEEN NO SUCH MEETING.

''IT'S JUST NOT TRUE,'' SAID LARCO, WHO EXPLAINED HE WOULD HAVE RECOGNIZED THE THREE MEN.

A MICHIGAN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL SAID FITZSIMMONS HAS KNOWN QUASARANO AND VITALE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS AND THAT INFORMANTS HAVE SEEN THE THREE IN LARCO'S TOGETHER AT LEAST ONCE IN THE PAST.

BUT THE OFFICIAL SAID THERE WAS NO CONFIRMATION THAT A MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO REPUTED MOBSTERS AND FITZSIMMONS OCCURRED ON JULY 25 OR 26.

09-05-75 11:37EDT

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



FELIX R. McKNIGHT

The real FBI stands up

PATRICIA HEARST and her sick army have been apprehended and immobilized by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

It is the end of 19 months around-the-clock investigation that took curious and violent turns: the end of the most celebrated fugitive hunt in FBI history.

Now it is one down and one to go—solution to the James Hoffa disappearance case.

The historical patience and investigative skills of the FBI once again prevailed in the bizarre Patty Hearst hunt. It always does. If you look down the record from the terrorists of the 30's to Friday's apprehension of the Symbionese Liberation Army remnants.

And it probably will in the knotty, gangster-tainted disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa.

IT HAS COME in the midst of critical pursuit from a strangely antagonistic band of liberal Congressmen and news media folk who have ferreted out questionable tactics of the J. Edgar Hoover era for their target practice.

Meanwhile, hundreds upon hundreds of FBI agents worked in their traditional silence—and under occasional highly unusual restraints—to splinter a dangerous group of radical revolutionists.

Now, where does this pursuit of the FBI end? In a blind alley where we bog down in our rubbish?

Hopefully, not.

The currently popular game of discrediting the intelligence agency because of alleged past violations of its prescribed ground rules is not over—not even with this latest example of their police skills.

In painful reluctance the critics recognize the police work that concluded the most widespread and costly of FBI efforts since the Dallas assassination of President Kennedy. Ironically, it came even while some elements are going back those 12 years to question FBI work on the Kennedy tragedy.

BUT THE HEARST climax, plus the recent capture of the Samuel Bronfman kidnapers under similarly rough pressures, has bouyed and at least partially restored the flagging FBI image.

Recent reports in eastern newspapers, quickly denied, have had FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley in the depths of frustration and leaning towards resignation. But he didn't sound like a man about to quit under fire when he received the telephoned news of the Hearst capture from his San Francisco agents:

"I knew we could do it!"

Nor did he sound like a man giving up on his Bureau's unbending attack on crime when, just a few days ago, he exhorted his staff and the nation to keep plugging in the FBI's monthly Law Enforcement Bulletin.

"Crime has continued to grow beyond our worst expectations because, in my opinion and that of many other lawmen with whom I talk, the rewards from criminal offenses have become larger than the risks.

"One sober projection of the chances of a burglar going to jail for his crime has placed the risks substantially below those which any citizen encounters in becoming a victim of a serious crime!"

AND THEN, in almost prophetic

ENCLOSURE

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)
"The Dallas Times Herald"
Dallas, Texas

Page 2B

Date: 9-21-75
Edition:
Author:
Editor: Kenneth P. Johnson
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Dallas

☐ Being Investigated

reference to Hearst-type cases days before it was solved, he added:

"There has been a preoccupation with viewing too many offenders sympathetically as themselves innocent victims of sociological injustices which have led or forced them irresistibly into criminal pursuits. This admirably humanistic perspective of the crime problem has, as many authorities are increasingly inclined to acknowledge, seriously discounted the possibility that criminal offenders are mainly rational—albeit unprincipled—individuals who see crime as an easier means than lawful industry of gaining what they want . . ."

In these next few weeks when three Congressional committees hold public hearings on alleged FBI deficiencies in its domestic surveillance, a few of the Congressmen might ask Kelley to expand on the real purposes of the FBI.

SEP 29 1975

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Director Sec'y ____

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Jn 12

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ADMINISTRATIVE:

[redacted]

non-public source material

THE 9/28/75 "DFP" CARRIED A LENGTHY ARTICLE CONCERNING THE SEARCH. THE FOLLOWING IS A SYNOPSIS OF THE ARTICLE:

IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE "JACKSON" INVESTIGATORS SAID THAT UNDERWORLD BOSSES SUPPLIED THE INFORMATION ON THE LOCATION BECAUSE THEY CONTEND ORGANIZED CRIME IS BEING FALSELY ACCUSED IN HOFFA DISAPPEARANCE AND WERE FEELING INTENSE HEAT FROM "INVESTIGATION SPEARHEADED BY THE FBI." HOFFA WAS REPORTEDLY MURDERED BECAUSE OF TEAMSTER UNION POLITICS AND THE UNDERWORLD CONTACT MADE A DEAL WITH SENATE INVESTIGATORS TO HELP FIND BODY IF FBI KEPT OUT OF ARRANGEMENTS. THE ARTICLE ELABORATED ON THE FACT THAT THE FBI WAS NOT IMMEDIATELY APPRISED OF THE INFORMATION.

THE DFP ARTICLE FURTHER REPORTED THAT SEARCH WAS INITIATED AS A RESULT OF A SERIES OF "CLOAK-AND-DAGGER" MEETINGS BEGINNING A MONTH AGO AFTER WILLIAM B. GALLINARO WAS CONTACTED ON AUGUST 28, 1975 BY AN UNDERWORLD "REPRESENTATIVE." SOURCE INDICATED HOFFA MURDERED BY SUPPORTER OF FRANK FITZSIMMONS WITHOUT FITZSIMMONS' KNOWLEDGE.

[redacted]

non-public source information

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SEP 29 1975

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non public source material

AN ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE "DETROIT FREE PRESS" (DFP), A MORNING DAILY NEWSPAPER IN DETROIT, DATED SEPT. 29, 1975, WITH THE HEADLINE "DETAILS SOUGHT FROM MAN WHO SAYS HE BURIED HOFFA". THE FOLLOWING IS A SYNOPSIS OF THAT ARTICLE:

THE DFP ARTICLE QUOTED WILLIAM B. GALLINARO, AN INVESTIGATOR FOR A SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRED BY SENATOR HENRY JACKSON, D-WASHINGTON, AS SAYING THAT THE INFORMATION WHICH LED STATE AUTHORITIES TO DIG FOR HOFFA'S BODY IN AN OAKLAND COUNTY FIELD CAME FROM ONE OF THE MEN WHO BURIED HIM. HE FURTHER STATED THAT THE INFORMANT WAS TRACKED DOWN DURING THE PAST MONTH AND IS BEING HELD BY AN UNDERWORLD CHIEFTAIN.

EX-106
REC-6
9-60052-286
15 OCT 2 1975

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[redacted]

ACCORDING TO GALLINARO, THE MAN IS ONE OF THREE MEN WHO ORGANIZED CRIME FIGURES SAY WERE INVOLVED IN THE MURDER OF HOFFA AND THE DISPOSAL OF THE BODY. GALLINARO ALSO ADVISED HE HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT WHETHER THE INFORMANT PARTICIPATED IN THE KILLING OR ONLY ASSISTED IN THE BURIAL; HOWEVER, THE UNDERWORLD IS HOLDING THE MAN UNTIL HE PROVIDES EXACT DIRECTIONS TO THE BURIAL SITE.

THE ARTICLE MAINTAINS THAT THE DIGGING IN THE SEARCH AREA HAS BEEN SUSPENDED WHILE GALLINARO AND HIS ASSOCIATE, F. KEITH ADKINSON, AWAIT MORE INFORMATION FROM THEIR UNDERWORLD SOURCES.

VINCE PIERSANTE, DIRECTOR OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ORGANIZED CRIME TASK FORCE, IS QUOTED AS SUGGESTING "GET THE INFORMANT HERE AND PUT A CROSS AT THE SPOT." PIERSANTE ADVISED THAT HE PLACES SOME CREDENCE ON THE INFORMATION BECAUSE IT APPARENTLY FITS THE DESCRIPTION OF WHAT IS KNOWN ABOUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE DISAPPEARANCE. PIERSANTE ALSO STATED THAT "WE DO NOT KNOW THE MENTAL CONDITION OF THE PERSON WHO MADE THE ESTIMATES

(OF DIRECTIONS TO THE BURIAL SITE)". PIERSANTE CONCLUDED THAT "IF YOU HAD HOFFA'S BODY IN THE BACK OF YOUR CAR, EVERY TEN SECONDS WOULD SEEM LIKE AN HOUR AND EVERY 100 YARDS WOULD SEEM LIKE THREE MILES."

THE ARTICLE FURTHER STATED THAT "SYNDICATED CHIEFTAINS" CONTEND THAT MOBSTERS WERE BEING FALSELY ACCUSED OF MURDERING HOFFA. GALLINARO INSISTED THAT THE CONTACT STATED THAT HOFFA WAS KILLED BY TEAMSTER SUPPORTERS OF UNION PRESIDENT FRANK FITZSIMMONS WITHOUT FITZSIMMON'S KNOWLEDGE, AND IN ORDER TO TAKE THE PRESSURE OFF THE UNDERWORLD, THE CONTACT TOLD HIM THAT ORGANIZED CRIME FIGURES WOULD HUNT DOWN HOFFA'S SLAYERS AND PROVIDE INFORMATION THAT WOULD LEAD THE SENATE INVESTIGATORS TO THE BODY.

BOTH GALLINARO AND ADKINSON ADMITTED THAT THEY STARTED THE SEARCH UNDER THE FALSE IMPRESSION THAT THE INFORMANT HAD BEEN BROUGHT BACK TO THE GRAVE SITE AND THAT THE DIRECTIONS THEY RECEIVED WERE EXACT.

GALLINARO ADVISED THAT HE HAS ASKED HIS UNDERWORLD CONTACT FOR ANSWERS TO 25 QUESTIONS THAT COULD NARROW THE SEARCH AREA. AS OF SUNDAY AFTERNOON, SEPT. 28, 1975, GALLINARO WAS STILL WAITING FOR THE ANSWERS; HOWEVER, INDICATED THAT HE WAS NOT CONCERNED AND THAT HIS SOURCES MUST BE "WORKING ON IT".

THE ARTICLE INDICATED THAT THE FBI WAS NOT NOTIFIED OF THE SEARCH UNTIL IT WAS UNDERWAY SATURDAY, SEPT. 27, 1975, AND THAT THIS DECISION HAS RESULTED IN CHARGES THAT THE DRAMATIC SEARCH HAD POLITICAL OVERTONES SINCE SENATOR JACKSON IS A DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE AND HIS MICHIGAN CAMPAIGN MANAGER IS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MICHIGAN, FRANK J. KELLEY. KELLEY TERMED SUCH TALK "RIDICULOUS". GALLINARO AND ADKINSON BOTH ADVISED THAT IT WAS THE SOURCE'S DECISION NOT TO INVOLVE THE FBI AND DENIED THAT THE INVESTIGATION HAD POLITICAL OVERTONES. GALLINARO STATED THAT "SENATOR JACKSON DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON UNTIL VERY LATE IN THIS MATTER. NOBODY KNEW WHAT WAS HAPPENING BUT ADKINSON AND I AND OUR SOURCE".

ADKINSON STATED IN THE ARTICLE THAT WHEN THE SOURCES FIRST CAME TO THE SENATE INVESTIGATORS, THE VERY FIRST THING THEY TOLD THEM TO DO WAS TO TAKE THEIR INFORMATION TO THE FBI; HOWEVER, THEY SAID "THEY COULDN'T DO THAT; THEY HAD TO WORK ONLY WITH US". GALLINARO ADDED, "IT WAS THEIR DECISION, NOT OURS AND CERTAINLY NOT THE SENATOR'S".

[redacted]

non public source material

END

MKA FBIHQ CLR

0-20 (Rev. 8-5-74)

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HOFFA 10-5
NIGHT LD

DETROIT (UPI) -- THE REPUTED UNDERWORLD TIPSTER WHO TOUCHED OFF DAYS OF DIGGING FOR THE BODY OF JAMES R. HOFFA LAST WEEK MAY HAVE BEEN PART OF PLOT TO BILK AUTHORITIES OUT OF $100,000, THE DETROIT NEWS REPORTED SUNDAY.

THE NEWSPAPER SAID FBI AND MICHIGAN LAW ENFORCEMENT SOURCES HAVE INFORMATION INDICATING THE INFORMANT TEAMED UP WITH A MINOR WEST SIDE DETROIT MOB FIGURE TO GIVE THE APPEARANCE THE MAFIA WAS HELPING INVESTIGATORS FIND HOFFA'S GRAVE.

TWO SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE INVESTIGATORS, WHO BROUGHT THE TIP TO MICHIGAN OFFICIALS, INSISTED THEIR INFORMATION WAS SOLID AND SCOFFED AT THE HOAX THEORY.

INVESTIGATORS WILLIAM GALLINARO AND F. KEITH ADKINSON, HOWEVER, ABANDONED THEIR VIGIL IN A SUBURBAN HOTEL AND QUIETLY RETURNED TO WASHINGTON SATURDAY NIGHT. THE SEARCH FOR THE FORMER TEAMSTERS UNION BOSS, WHO DISAPPEARED JULY 30, REMAINED AT A STANDSTILL.

ACCORDING TO THE DETROIT NEWS REPORT, THE DETROIT MOBSTER "PUT THE WORD OUT ON THE STREET" THAT THE MOB WAS HELPING AUTHORITIES FIND HOFFA WHILE THE SUBCOMMITTEE INFORMANT GAVE GALLINARO AND ADKINSON A MAP CRUDELY SHOWING THE GRAVESITE.

WITH THE WORD OUT, UNDERWORLD SOURCES CONFIRMED THE INFORMANT'S TALE OF MOB COOPERATION, THE NEWS SAID.

THE REPORT SAID FEDERAL LAWMEN WERE UNSURE IF MONEY HAD BEEN PAID TO THE INFORMANT, BUT THEY WERE CERTAIN AN AGREEMENT FOR PAYMENT HAD BEEN MADE.

GALLINARO AND ADKINSON REMAINED IN DETROIT AFTER THE ORIGINAL TIP FAILED TO PRODUCE HOFFA'S BODY, HOPING THEIR INFORMANT COULD PROVIDE MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THE GRAVESITE. REC-17 9-60015-2279

HOFFA DISAPPEARED JULY 30 FROM THE PARKING LOT OF A SUBURBAN RESTAURANT. HUNDREDS OF TIPS, SOME OF THEM LAUNCHING FULL-SCALE INVESTIGTIVE EFFORTS, HAVE PROVED FRUITLESS.
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WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

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BAY LE

DETROIT (UPI) -- THE FBI IS QUESTIONING EMPLOYES OF A SUBURBAN RESTAURANT ON A TIP THAT EX-TEAMSTERS BOSS JAMES R. HOFFA WAS KILLED THERE AND HIS BODY DUMPED IN A TRASH COMPACTOR SERVICED BY REPUTED MAFIA MEMBERS.

FEDERAL OFFICIALS FRIDAY CONFIRMED AGENTS WERE INTERVIEWING EMPLOYES AT THE RALEIGH HOUSE IN SOUTHFIELD ON INFORMATION THAT HOFFA ATTENDED A SECRET MEETING THERE JULY 30, THE DAY HE DISAPPEARED.

ROBERT OZER, HEAD OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S ORGANIZED CRIME STRIKE FORCE IN DETROIT, WOULD NOT SAY THAT AGENTS HAVE DISCOVERED IN THEIR QUEST FOR CLUES TO THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE 62-YEAR-OLD LABOR LEADER.

HE WOULD SAY ONLY THE TIP CAME IN A "SOUND MANNER."

FEDERAL OFFICIALS SAID THE LARGE TRASH COMPACTOR AT THE RALEIGH HOUSE IS SERVICED BY TWO REPUTED MAFIA MEMBERS -- RAFAELE "JIMMY J." QUASARANO AND DOMINIC F. "FATS" CORRADO. QUASARANO AND CORRADO WERE IDENTIFIED IN U.S. SENATE TESTIMONY IN 1963 AS TOP-LEVEL ADMINISTRATORS OF THE DETROIT MAFIA.

JAMES JOSEPH, GENERAL MANAGER OF THE RESTAURANT, SAID FBI AGENTS INSPECTED THE 8-BY-23-FOOT COMPACTOR LAST MONTH.

TWO U.S. SENATE INVESTIGATORS WHO CAME TO DETROIT MORE THAN A WEEK AGO WITH WHAT THEY THOUGHT WAS A MAP SHOWING THE LOCATION OF HOFFA'S GRAVE IN A WOODED, SWAMPY AREA IN OAKLAND COUNTY PLAN TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON THIS WEEKEND.

INVESTIGATORS WILLIAM GALLINARO AND F. KEITH ADKINSON HAVE WAITED SINCE SUNDAY IN A SOUTHFIELD HOTEL ROOM FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE REPORTED GRAVE SITE FROM THE TIPSTER, DESCRIBED AS A RELIABLE UNDERWORLD CONTACT.

SO FAR, THE INFORMATION GIVEN THE INVESTIGATORS HAS PRODUCED NOTHING MORE THAN THE DIGGING OF SEVERAL LARGE HOLES IN A FIELD IN WATERFORD TOWNSHIP ABOUT 35 MILES NORTHWEST OF DETROIT.

THE DETROIT NEWS, IN A COPYRIGHTED STORY, IDENTIFIED THE MAN WHO GAVE THE TIP TO SEN. HENRY JACKSON'S CRIME SUBCOMMITTEE AS HARRY HALL, 56, DESCRIBED AS A VETERAN UNDERWORLD INFORMER WITH CONNECTIONS WITH BOTH THE TEAMSTERS AND THE MAFIA.

HALL, WHO ALSO GOES BY THE NAME HARRY HALLER, DENIED THE REPORT IN A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW WITH THE DETROIT FREE PRESS FROM HIS HOME IN BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF. HOWEVER, A HIGH-RANKING FBI SOURCE ON THE WEST COAST TOLD THE FREE PRESS THAT HALL IS "UNDOUBTEDLY" THE SOURCE PASSING INFORMATION TO THE SENATE INVESTIGATORS.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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non public source material

RE HOFFA FAMILY:

AN ARTICLE IN THE NOV. 10, 1975, ISSUE OF THE "DETROIT FREE PRESS" NOTES THAT JAMES P. HOFFA (JPH) APPEARED BEFORE A RANK AND FILE MEETING OF TEAMSTER LOCAL 299 ON NOV. 9, 1975 TO DISCUSS THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF ORGANIZING. INSTEAD HE MADE AN IMPASSIONED SPEACH ABOUT MEMORIES OF HIS FATHER. AFTER THE SPEECH A UNION REPRESENTATIVE MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT HOFFA AS A BUSINESS AGENT FOR LOCAL 299 TO WHICH HE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY NAMED AFTER ABOUT 600 DELEGATES GAVE HIM AN ALMOST UNANYMOUS STANDING VOTE. THIS WILL CLEAR THE WAY FOR HOFFA TO LATER RUN FOR A TEAMSTER POSITION. EX-115 REC-65 9-60052-1006

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ON DEC. 30, 1975, WILLIAM E. BUFALINO, SR. APPEARED BEFORE USDJ JAMES P. CHURCHILL AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN, ON A MOTION TO SET BAIL IN THE PENDING APPEAL OF STEPHEN ANDRETTA. THE COURT DIRECTED THE HEARING BE ADJOURNED TO DEC. 31, 1975, BEFORE USDJ RALPH FREEMAN BECAUSE OF HIS PRIOR RULINGS IN THIS MATTER. USDJ CHURCHILL CALLED BUFALINO'S ARGUMENTS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION BY THE COURT ON HIS REQUEST "A LOT OF GARBAGE".

ON DEC. 31, 1975, BUFALINO APPEARED BEFORE USDJ FREEMAN. FOLLOWING ONE AND ONE HALF HOURS OF RAMBLING ARGUMENT, FREEMAN SAID HE HAD HEARD ENOUGH. AFTER A BRIEF ADJOURNMENT, FREEMAN FOUND BUFALINO'S APPEAL "FRIVOLOUS AND TAKEN FOR DELAY" AND DENIED THE MOTION. BUFALINO WAS ADVISED BY THE COURT THAT THE LAW STATES THE COURT OF APPEALS MUST CONSIDER THE APPEAL BUFALINO HAS ALREADY SUBMITTED (ON DEC. 22, 1975) WITHIN 30 DAYS. BUFALINO RESPONDED, OBVIOUSLY UNAWARE OF THE LAW, BY

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REMARKING "THAT'S GOOD TO KNOW".

FOLLOWING THIS DENIAL, BUFALINO HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE STEPS OF THE FEDERAL BUILDING. HE ANNOUNCED THAT MEMBERS OF TEAMSTERS NEW JERSEY LOCAL 560 HAVE OFFERED TO HELP SEARCH FOR HOFFA'S BODY IN THE (MUSCATO'S) DUMP IN JERSEY CITY. HE SAID 400 TEAMSTERS ARE READY TO ASSIST THE FBI IN THIS AND FURTHER THAT THE BRIGUGLIOS AND THOMAS ANDRETTA ARE NOW OFFERING A $10,000 DOLLAR REWARD TO ANYONE WHO CAN FIND HOFFA'S BODY "IN MUSCATO'S DUMP".

[redacted]

non-public source information

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 572203
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHICAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

ANTHONY J. ZERILLI,)

Plaintiff)

v) PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)

Defendant)

FILED
U.S. DISTRICT COURT
EAST DIST. MICH.
NOV 11 2 01 PM '75
HENRY H. HANSSEN
CLERK

TO: THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN:

Now comes Anthony J. Zerilli, by his attorney, William J. Weinstein, and respectfully shows unto this Honorable Court that he is being illegally detained at the Federal Correctional Institution at Milan, Michigan, which institution is within the confines of the Eastern District of Michigan, Southern Division, and moves this Honorable Court to order him returned to the Federal Correctional Institution at Sandstone, Minnesota, for the following reasons:

1. That your petitioner was convicted of a federal offense in the United States District Court, Central District of California. That the United States Bureau of Prisons designated that your petitioner serve his sentence at the Federal Correctional Institution at Sandstone, Minnesota. That your petitioner did on April 14, 1975 begin serving his sentence as imposed upon him by the United States District Judge in the Central District of California.

2. That on September 19, 1975, United States Task Force attorneys in the Eastern District of Michigan, Southern Division, caused to be filed before this Honorable Court a petition for writ of habeas corpus ad testificand

That upon the issuance of said Writ, your petitioner was taken by the U. S. Marshal's office from Sandstone, Minnesota, by automobile. That the trip from Sandstone to Michigan, by automobile, entailed stopovers wherein your petitioner was placed in county jails where he was compelled, because of the lack of facilities, to sleep on floors until such time as the trip could continue the following morning.

3. That your petitioner arrived in Michigan, and was placed in the Oakland County jail located in Oakland County, State of Michigan, and that he did appear before a federal grand jury in Michigan on or about the 24th of September, 1975.

4. That your petitioner remained in the Oakland County jail until on or about October 15, 1975 when, because of a motion filed before this Honorable Court, petitioner was finally transferred from the Oakland County jail, which had no facilities whatsoever to keep federal incarcerated prisoners for any duration of time, especially the duration of time that your petitioner had been there. As a result, on said date, he was transferred to the Federal Correctional Institution at Milan, Michigan.

5. That your petitioner has been a "U. S. Marshal's prisoner" since that time; that he is not part of the permanent prison personnel, but rather he is under the "jurisdiction of the U. S. Marshal."

6. That continued and prolonged retention as has been the case herein, has illegally and wrongfully affected your petitioner's rights under the federal law as to:

(a) a furlough

(b) a transfer

(c) prison job opportunity

(d) attempts at rehabilitation

(e) parole

and in other matters, as a result he has been illegally and wrongfully deprive of his constitutional rights as guaranteed him by the U. S. Constitution.

7. That your petitioner did re-appear before the federal grand jury at his own request on or about October 22, 1975, and did testify before the federal grand jury and did answer each and every question placed to him by the prosecutor to the best of your petitioner's ability.

8. That since that time petitioner's counsel has been requesting of Mr. Fred Dana, Special U. S. Attorney attached to the U. S. Strike Task Force in Detroit, Michigan, that your petitioner be returned to the Federal Correctional Institution at Sandstone, Minnesota, where he was legally assigned, where he has an assigned case worker, and a case team who have jurisdiction of him and have been working with him in efforts of rehabilitation in their efforts to attempt to obtain a furlough, and in efforts to obtain a transfer, as is the case of every other federal prisoner.

9. That following his appearance before the federal grand jury on o about October 22, 1975, petitioner's counsel has been conferring with Fred Dana, Special Assistant U. S. Attorney, who has been handling the grand jur investigation and is in charge of petitioner's incarceration. To avoid ambiguity, this means until such time as the United States Attorney returns the writ of habeas corpus as satisfied, your petitioner will remain in Michigan in a segregated status, unable to prove he can rehabilitate himself, unable to prove his worthiness for parole, unable to prove his right to transf to any other federal correctional institution, unable to obtain or request furlough, all to his great detriment, and violative of the due process clause of the United States Constitution.

10. That the tactics used by the United States Attorney's office, Strike Force Division in Michigan, which have been used to incarcerate

petitioner, have been to humiliate, embarrass and punish him without cause or justification, without due process as guaranteed him by the United States Constitution, and is cruel and inhuman treatment, violative of his rights under the Fifth Amendment, Sixth Amendment, and Eighth Amendment of the U. S. Constitution, all to his great detriment.

WHEREFORE, your petitioner prays that a writ of habeas corpus be directed to the U. S. Marshall for the Eastern District of Michigan for the body of the above-named person, on Wednesday the 12th day of November at 10:00 a.m. in order that he may be present to inquire into his illegal detention by the U. S. Marshal, and by the United States Attorney's Strike Force attached to the Eastern District of Michigan, Southern Division, while he was being incarcerated at Milan, Michigan.

William J. Weinstein
Attorney for Petitioner
1935 First National Building
Detroit, Michigan 48226

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
COUNTY OF WAYNE) SS

On this 11th day of November, A. D. 1975 before me, a Notary Public in and for the said County, personally appeared the above-named William J. Weinstein who is the attorney for Petitioner, and who has read the foregoing Petition by him subscribed and knows the contents thereof, and that the same is true of his own knowledge and belief, except those matters stated to be upon information and belief, and as to those matters he believes the same to be true.

Marion Heffner
Notary Public, Wayne County, Michigan
My Commission Expires January 21, 1977

TO THE CLERK OF SAID COURT:

LET WRIT ISSUE AS PRAYED

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

ANTHONY J. ZERILLI,

Plaintiff,

v. Civil No. 5-72203

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Defendant.

GOVERNMENT'S ANSWER IN OPPOSITION TO ANTHONY J. ZERILLI'S PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS

COMES NOW the United States of America, by its attorneys, Ralph B. Guy, Jr., United States Attorney, Eastern District of Michigan, and Frederick J. Dana, Special Attorney, and opposes ANTHONY J. ZERILLI's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus for the following reasons:

1. ANTHONY J. ZERILLI is a convicted Federal prisoner, who is serving a four- (4) year sentence, which commenced on April 14, 1975, at the Federal Correctional Institution at Sandstone, Minnesota;

2. ANTHONY J. ZERILLI is lawfully incarcerated by virtue of his conviction and sentence affirmed by Circuit Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, arising out of his conviction from the Central District of California for conspiring to own and operate the FRONTIER HOTEL GAMBLING CASINO by persons not licensed by the State of Nevada, in violation of Nevada and Federal laws;

3. By virtue of a Writ of Habeas Corpus Ad Testificandum, ANTHONY J. ZERILLI has been and continues to be a witness before the Special Grand Jury investigating the disappearance of James R. Hoffa on July 30, 1975, and a pattern of racketeering believed to be in violation

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

ANTHONY ZERILLI,

Plaintiff,

v. Civil No. 5-72203

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Defendant.

GOVERNMENT'S MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF ITS MOTION TO DISMISS ANTHONY ZERILLI'S WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS APPLICATION

ANTHONY ZERILLI has no right to object to the inquiry of the Special Grand Jury as it investigates a pattern of racketeering and the disappearance of James R. Hoffa on July 30, 1975. In United States v. Calandra, 414 U.S. 338 (1974), the Court held that a witness, the subject of a search warrant executed during a gambling investigation, after being granted immunity could not object to questions about loan-sharking activities that were derived from the search in the gambling raid.

In so holding the Court said:

> Traditionally the grand jury has been accorded wide latitude to inquire into violations of criminal law. No judge presides to monitor its proceedings. It deliberates in secret and may determine alone the course of its inquiry. The grand jury may compel the production of evidence or the testimony of witnesses as it considers appropriate, and its operation generally is unrestrained by the technical procedural and evidentiary rules governing the conduct of criminal trials. "It is a grand inquest, a body with powers of investigation and inquisition, the scope of whose inquiries is not to be limited narrowly by questions of propriety or forecasts of the probable result of the investigation, or by doubts whether any particular individual will be found properly subject to an accusation of crime."

Id. at 343.

Continuing, the Court reemphasized the obligation of a witness to testify even if difficulties are encountered as a result of being so compelled.

> "The duty to testify may on occasion be burdensome and even embarrassing. It may cause injury to a witness' social and economic status." Id. at 345.

Here, ANTHONY ZERILLI a lawfully convicted federal prisoner is, therefore, not entitled to relief in the form of a "writ of habeas corpus" to be returned to Sandstone, Minnesota, to resume his status as a member of the permanent prison population there. The Supreme Court was referring to a citizen not under the bounds of confinement. ANTHONY ZERILLI, however, does not enjoy, nor is he entitled to special status as to when he wants to return or to where he wants to be incarcerated.

Finally, it is clear that a witness "may not interfere with the course of the Grand Jury's inquiry." Id. at 345. The Court has stated in Calandra, supra, that objections to incompetency and irrelevancy [are] "no concern of his" (a witness'). Id. at 345.

For the foregoing reasons, the Government urges the Court to dismiss the application for a Writ of Habeas Corpus filed in the instant matter.

Respectfully submitted,

RALPH B. GUY, JR.
United States Attorney
Eastern District of Michigan

FREDERICK J. DANA
Special Attorney
Detroit Strike Force
United States Department of Justice
940 Federal Building
Detroit, Michigan 48226
Telephone: 313-226-7252

Dated: November 13, 1975.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

TOMMY ANDRETTA,

Defendant.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 4th day of December, 1975, upon consideration of the within verified Application to Compel Participation in a Lineup, and following a hearing in open court at which hearing TOMMY ANDRETTA was present, with counsel, it is hereby

ORDERED that TOMMY ANDRETTA is hereby directed and required to participate in a lineup to be conducted at 1 P.M. on December 6th, 1975, at Oakland County Jail, Pontiac, Mich.

It is further ORDERED that counsel for TOMMY ANDRETTA shall be present at all times during which TOMMY ANDRETTA participates in the said lineup.

/s/ James P. Churchill
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO,

Defendant.

O R D E R

AND NOW, this 4th day of December, 1975, upon consideration of the above-entitled Application to Compel Participation in a Line-up and following a hearing in open court at which hearing GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO was present with counsel, it is hereby

ORDERED that GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO is hereby directed to participate in a lineup to be conducted at 1:30 P.M. on December 4th, 1975, at the Federal Courthouse, Detroit, Michigan.

It is further ORDERED that counsel for GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO may be present at all times during which GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO participates in the said lineup.

/s/ [illegible]
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO,

Defendant.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 4th day of December, 1975, upon consideration of the within verified Application to Compel Participation in a Lineup, and following a hearing in open court at which hearing SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO was present, with counsel, it is hereby

ORDERED that SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO is hereby directed and required to participate in a lineup to be conducted at 1:30 P.M. on December 6th, 1975, at Oakland County Jail, Pontiac, Mich.

It is further ORDERED that counsel for SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO shall be present at all times during which SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO participates in the said lineup.

/s/ James P. Churchill
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO,

Defendant.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 5th day of December, 1975, upon consideration of the within verified Application to Compel Participation in a Lineup, and following a hearing in open court at which hearing SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO was present, with counsel, it is hereby

ORDERED that SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO is hereby directed and required to participate in a lineup to be conducted at 1:30 P.M. on December 6th, 1975, at Oakland County Jail, Pontiac Mich.

It is further ORDERED that counsel for SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO shall be present at all times during which SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO participates in the said lineup.

/s/ James P. Churchill
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO,

Defendant.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 1st day of December, 1975, upon consideration of the within verified Application to Compel Participation in a Lineup, and following a hearing in open court at which hearing GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO was present, with counsel, it is hereby

ORDERED that GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO is hereby directed and required to participate in a lineup to be conducted at 1:30 P.M. on December 6th, 1975, at Oakland County Jail, Pontiac, Mich.

It is further ORDERED that counsel for GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO shall be present at all times during which GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO participates in the said lineup.

/s/ James P. Churchill
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

TOMMY ANDRETTA,

Defendant.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 4th day of December, 1975, upon consideration of the within verified Application to Compel Participation in a Lineup, and following a hearing in open court at which hearing TOMMY ANDRETTA, was present, with counsel, it is hereby

ORDERED that TOMMY ANDRETTA is hereby directed and required to participate in a lineup to be conducted at 1:30 P.M. on December 6th, 1975, at Oakland County Jail Pontiac, Mich.

It is further ORDERED that counsel for TOMMY ANDRETTA shall be present at all times during which TOMMY ANDRETTA participates in the said lineup.

/s/ James P. Churchill
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO,

Defendant.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 4th day of December, 1975, upon consideration of the within verified Application to Compel Participation in a Lineup, and following a hearing in open court at which hearing SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO was present, with counsel, it is hereby

ORDERED that SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO is hereby directed and required to participate in a lineup to be conducted at 1:30 P.M. on December 6th, 1975, at Oakland County Jail, Pontiac Mich.

It is further ORDERED that counsel for SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO shall be present at all times during which SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO participates in the said lineup.

/s/ James P. Churchill
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO,

Defendant.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 4th day of December, 1975, upon consideration of the within verified Application to Compel Participation in a Lineup, and following a hearing in open court at which hearing GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO was present, with counsel, it is hereby

ORDERED that GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO is hereby directed and required to participate in a lineup to be conducted at 1:30 P.M. on December 6th, 1975, at Oakland County Jail, Pontiac Mich.

It is further ORDERED that counsel for GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO shall be present at all times during which GABRIEL BRIGUGLIO participates in the said lineup.

/s/ [illegible]
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

TOMMY ANDRETTA,

Defendant.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 4th day of December, 1975, upon consideration of the within verified Application to Compel Participation in a Lineup, and following a hearing in open court at which hearing TOMMY ANDRETTA, was present, with counsel, it is hereby

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It is further ORDERED that counsel for TOMMY ANDRETTA shall be present at all times during which TOMMY ANDRETTA participates in the said lineup.

/s/ James P. Churchill
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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RE: WILLIAM E. BUFALINO, SR.

non public source material

[redacted] BUFALINO ADVISED THE PRESS HE WAS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. FEB 9, 1976, CONFERING WITH U.S. REPRESENTATIVE JOHN CONYERS AND ELEVEN OTHER IDENTIFIED CONGRESSMEN AND THREE SENATORS WHO HAVE CO-SPONSORED HOUSE BILL NUMBER 4604, THE GRAND JURY REFORM ACT. HE ADVISED HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETINGS THERE TO BEGIN LATER THIS MONTH REGARDING THIS BILL AND SAID THE SUBCOMMITTEE HANDLING THESE HEARINGS IS THE CITIZENSHIP-IMMIGRATION AND INTERNATIONAL LAW SUBCOMMITTEE. BUFALINO HANDED OUT COPIES OF THIS BILL TO THE PRESS. HR 4606 CONCERNS ESTABLISHING "CERTAIN RULES WITH RESPECT TO THE APPEARANCE OF WITNESSES BEFORE GRAND JURYS IN ORDER TO BETTER PROTECT THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS..." BUFALINO SAID HE INTENDS TO WORK CLOSELY AND PUBLICLY WITH CONYERS ON THE PASSAGE OF THIS LEGISLATION AND SAID HIS CLIENT, STEPHEN ANDRETTA, MAY BE

EX-115

REC-34 7-6052-134

5 FEB 12 1976

5 FEB 19 1976

A PRIME WITNESS FOR THESE HEARINGS.

BUFALINO ALSO ANNOUNCED HE PLANS TO WRITE TWO BOOKS ON HOFFA, ONE ENTITLED "MY LIFE WITH JAMES R. HOFFA IN PICTURES", BOTH TO BE PUBLISHED BY MAY 15, 1976 BY BANTAM (PH) BOOKS.

RE: ANTHONY PROVENZANO

BUFALINO TOLD THE PRESS HE ALONG WITH DEFENSE ATTORNEY MURRAY EDELBAUM (PH) WILL REPRESENT PROVENZANO IN NYC IN HIS TRIAL THERE BEGINNING IN MARCH, 1976.

RE: [redacted]

non-public material

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 13 1976

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[redacted]

non public source material

RE: WILLIAM E. BUFALINO, SR.

[redacted]

OUTSIDE OF THE FGJ ROOM, BUFALINO ADVISED THE PRESS OF BEING IN WASHINGTON, D.C., FEB 9, 1976, CONFERRING WITH U. S. REPRESENTATIVE JOHN CONYERS (DETROIT), AND ELEVEN OTHER UNIDENTIFIED CONGRESSMEN AND THREE SENATORS, CO-SPONSORS OF HOUSE BILL NUMBER 4604, THE GRAND JURY REFORM ACT OF 1975. HE STATED HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETINGS BEFORE THE CITIZEN - IMMIGRATION AND INTERNATIONAL LAW SUBCOMMITTEE LATER THIS MONTH WOULD CONSIDER THIS BILL. BUFALINO SAID HE INTENDS TO WORK CLOSELY AND PUBLICLY WITH CONYERS ON PASSAGE OF THIS LEGISLATION AND THAT STEPHEN ANDRETTA MAY BE A PRIME WITNESS FOR THESE HEARINGS. HE FURTHER TOLD THE PRESS HE INTENDS TO WRITE TWO BOOKS ON JAMES R. HOFFA, ONE ENTITLED "MY LIFE WITH JAMES R. HOFFA IN PICTURES", BOTH TO BE [redacted] PUBLISHED BY MAY 15, 1976, BY BANTAM (PH) BOOKS.

EX-116 REC-21 9-61002-130

FEB 19 1976

[redacted]

A NEWS CONFERENCE WAS HELD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HIS RELEASE AT 2:15 P.M. IN THE LAW OFFICES OF WILLIAM BUFALINO, JR. IN SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN. IT WAS REPORTED IN THE PRESS THAT ANDRETTA STATED "YOU KNOW AS MUCH ABOUT THE DISAPPEARANCE OF JAMES HOFFA AS I DO." HE FURTHER SAID HE "WAS BORN AND RAISED IN THE SAME TOWN" AS PICARDO AND REITERATED HE WAS AT TEAMSTER LOCAL 560 ON JULY 30, 1975, PLAYING CARDS WITH PROVENZANO, THE BRIGUGLIOS,

HE SAID AS FAR AS HE AND HIS ASSOCIATES HAVING BECOME THE FOCUS IN THE HOFFA PROBE, "ITS SOMETHING LIKE THE SACCO-VANZETTI CASE. WE JUST HAPPEN TO BE A COUPLE OF LITTLE NOBODYS OF ITALIAN EXTRACTION FROM NEW JERSEY." HE ENDED THE CONFERENCE BY SAYING, "I REALLY DON'T KNOW IF HOFFA IS DEAD."

[redacted]

non-public source information

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 10 1976

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[redacted]

non public source material

[redacted]

THE "DETROIT FREE PRESS" IN AN ARTICLE, DATED APRIL 1, 1976, REPORTED THAT MRS. JOSEPHINE HOFFA WAS APPOINTED TO ADMINISTER THE $900,000.00 ESTATE OF HER HUSBAND, JAMES R. HOFFA (JRH). MRS. HOFFA, REPRESENTED BY HER SON, JAMES P. HOFFA, ASKED THE COURT TO GIVE HER CONTROL OF HER HUSBAND'S PERSONAL ASSETS AND REAL ESTATE. PRESIDING OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, JUDGE DONALD ADAMS APPROVED THE SPECIAL APPOINTMENT, SAYING IT WILL LAST FOR SEVEN YEARS WHEN UNDER THE LAW, JRH COULD BE DECLARED LEGALLY DEAD UNLESS THE ACTUAL REMAINS ARE FOUND BEFORE THEN. UNDER THIS TITLE, MRS. HOFFA NOW HAS AUTHORITY TO SEE THAT ALL BILLS AND TAXES ON ANY PROPERTIES ARE PAID AND TO BASICALLY PRESERVE THE ESTATE AS IT EXISTS.

EX-104

REC-57 9-60052-1630

APR 14 1976

APR 15 1976

[redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 16 1976

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[redacted]

non-public source material

IN AN ARTICLE IN THE DETROIT NEWS, ON APRIL 12, 1976, IT WAS REPORTED MRS. HOFFA HAS FILED A SUIT AGAINST THE TRUSTEES OF THE TEAMSTER UNION PENSION FUND, AND A WASHINGTON, D.C. BANK TO FORCE PAYMENTS OF $461,000 IN PENSION BENEFITS TO HER HUSBAND'S ESTATE. THE SUIT CHARGES THAT IBT PRESIDENT FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS HAS FAILED TO LIVE UP TO AN AGREEMENT TO PAY HOFFA A LUMP SUM OF 1.7 MILLION DOLLARS IN PENSION BENEFITS. ACCORDING TO MRS. HOFFA'S LAWYERS, HOFFA WAS TO LEAVE $650,000 ON DEPOSIT AT

EX-115 REC-6 9-60032-1668

139
57 APR 26 1976

[redacted]

AMERICAN SECURITY AND TRUST COMPANY, WASHINGTON, D.C., UNTIL JULY 1, 1974 AND $461,000 ON DEPOSIT UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1976. THE SUIT CONTENDS A MONTH BEFORE THE BALANCE WAS TO BE PAID, ON JANUARY 1, FITZSIMMONS WROTE THE BANK TELLING IT TO WITHHOLD THE PAYMENT BECAUSE "JAMES R. HOFFA IS LIABLE TO THE PLAN IN EXCESS OF FUNDS PRESENTLY HELD BY YOUR BANK." NO EXPLANATION OF THE ALLEGED LIABILITY WAS GIVEN.

[redacted]

Non-public source material

U.S. Probers Think They Know Who Murdered Hoffa and Why

BY SAUL FRIEDMAN
Free Press Washington Staff

WASHINGTON — Federal investigators believe they know why, how and by whom former Teamsters President James R. Hoffa was kidnapped and killed, according to a high-ranking Justice Department official.

The official, who asked that his name be withheld, declined to divulge the details of what investigators have found because, he said, that could pinpoint the government's sources of information.

He did say, however, that the evidence and information, supplied by witnesses and underworld informants strongly point to Detroit area persons close to Hoffa and the New Jersey mobsters. New Jersey Teamster official Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano, also figures in the government probe, he said.

A separate source in Detroit who has been close to the investigation confirmed the Justice Department official's assessment of the case.

And Richard Thornburgh, assistant attorney general in charge of the criminal division, put it this way: "We have a very viable theory as to the facts and circumstances surrounding the kidnapping and murder of Hoffa and as to who was responsible. But there is a difference between what we know and what we can prove in court." Hoffa disappeared last July 30 from the parking lot of the Machus Red Fox Restaurant in Bloomfield Township.

Another federal source said that Charles (Chuckie) O'Brien apparently played a major role in the events that led up to the disappearance of Hoffa.

But the same source said that O'Brien, self-described foster son of the missing Hoffa and a key figure in the probe from the start, may have been involved unwittingly.

Thornburgh acknowledged that since December, attempts to build a legal case against suspects have "stalled." But he added, "We're still working on it every day. We are still putting the pressure on. We are still getting information. And we are confident we can break the case.

Investigators seemed on the verge of cracking the case four months ago when three New Jersey men were brought before a grand jury and a lineup.

The three were Salvatore Briguglio, former business agent for Teamsters Local 560 in Union City, N.J., and a close associate of Provenzano, the local's former president and now its secretary-treasurer; Briguglio's brother, Gabriel; and Thomas Andretta, sentenced in June 1973 to prison for loan sharking.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

P1, 2

DETROIT FREE PRESS

Date: 4/23/76
Edition: MORNING
Author: SAUL FRIEDMAN
Editor: JOHN S. KNIGHT
Title: HOFFEX

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: DETROIT (79-359)
☑ Being Investigated

9-B 00 52-1686

Last December, Robert Ozer, chief of the federal organized crime strike force in Detroit, declared at a U.S. district court hearing that the grand jury had information from an informant that the three New Jersey men kidnapped and killed Hoffa.

The three refused to appear voluntarily before the lineup,

and their lawyer said they claimed the Fifth Amendment and refused to testify before the grand jury.

The three were permitted to return home following their appearances before a Detroit grand jury and the lineup in Pontiac, reportedly after witnesses had failed to substantiate underworld tips that the three were involved in the kidnapping. The case seemed to die.

ON THE condition that his name not be used, the Justice Department official agreed to explain as candidly as possible to Knight Newspapers why the Hoffa investigation now seems to be on dead center. His explanation was checked with separate sources involved in the investigation.

Just why the official chose to reveal that the Justice Department is getting closer to the suspected killers is unclear. But the disclosure may be related to an overall campaign to put increasing pressure on those responsible for Hoffa's disappearance and those who have knowledge of it.

According to the official and the other sources, identifications supplied by witnesses at the Pontiac lineup were not as legally conclusive as FBI agents wished. But investigators became satisfied that they knew who was involved in Hoffa's disappearance.

The investigators also have information from within the Teamsters and the underworld in Detroit and New Jersey which has bolstered their working assumptions about the case.

The problem is that the tipsters, although considered reliable by investigators, could be of no help in obtaining [illegible] convictions.

The investigators further believe, on the basis of evidence and information, that Hoffa was lured to the restaurant for a lunch meeting which never took place with an old friend and reputed mob figure, Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, among others.

Asked if Chuckie O'Brien was involved in helping to set up the kidnapping, the Justice Department official said: "We're keeping the pressure on Chuckie. I won't say anything one way or the other."

It was learned from another source, however, that FBI agents have what they consider reliable information that O'Brien picked up the New Jersey trio when they arrived at Detroit Metropolitan Airport. The source indicated O'Brien might not have known what purpose the men had in coming to Detroit.

Attorneys for the three men have denied that they were in Detroit at the time of Hoffa's disappearance.

O'Brien could not be reached for comment Thursday.

THE JUSTICE Department official went out of his way to say that investigators "have no evidence" that Teamster President Frank Fitzsimmons, who had become Hoffa's rival, was involved in Hoffa's disappearance.

The official did acknowledge — for the first time — that the Justice Department had known that it probably could not have sustained the ban against Hoffa's participation in union activities much longer.

Hoffa, who was on parole, was pushing a suit to permit resumption of his union activities. And the Justice Department official said that Hoffa probably would have won, sooner or later, on constitutional grounds.

Fitzsimmons, who wanted to hold on to the presidency, "benefitted" from Hoffa's disappearance, he said.

"But he would have benefitted if Hoffa had died of a heart attack," the official added, "and it would be unfair to leave the impression that [illegible] evidence suggests Fitz-

INVESTIGATORS, I agree, according to several sources, on the motive behind the kidnapping and murder of Hoffa.

As the Justice Department official put it: "There was a strong likelihood that Hoffa was coming back to the Teamsters Union. That was a matter of concern to underworld figures who had acquired influence in the union and its pension fund during Hoffa's tenure as well as during Fitzsimmons'.

"Hoffa was not as easy to get along with as Fitzsimmons," the official said, "and anything that threatened to disrupt the agreeable relationship the underworld had with (the Teamsters), or even create uncertainty, had to be eliminated."

Although there has been speculation that Hoffa's body was transported to a dump on New Jersey's Hackensack River, investigators discount that.

They believe that the body of a former loan shark is in that dump, and their hope is that the recovery of that body would help make a solid murder case, which could be used as a lever in breaking the Hoffa case.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 23 1976

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non public source material

AN ARTICLE APPEARED APRIL 23, 1976, IN "DETROIT FREE PRESS" ENTITLED "U.S. PROBERS THINK THEY KNOW WHO MURDERED HOFFA AND WHY". THIS ARTICLE WRITTEN BY SOL FRIEDMAN, WASHINGTON STAFF OF THE "FREE PRESS" AND HAD BYLINE OF WASHINGTON, D.C. THE ARTICLE WAS ATTRIBUTED TO A "HIGH RANKING JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL". GENERALLY, THE ARTICLE INDICATED THAT EVIDENCE SUPPLIED BY WITNESSES AND UNDERWORLD INFORMANTS STRONGLY POINTED

EX-110

REC-31 [illegible]

4 APR 29 1976

55 MAY 17 1976

TO DETROIT AREA PERSONS CLOSE TO HOFFA AND THE NEW JERSEY MOBSTERS. THE ARTICLE CONTAINED A QUOTE OF ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH AS FOLLOWS: "WE HAVE A VERY VIABLE THEORY AS TO THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE KIDNAPPING AND MURDER OF HOFFA AND AS TO WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE. BUT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WHAT WE KNOW AND WHAT WE CAN PROVE IN COURT." THE ARTICLE ALSO INDICATED THAT CHARLES "CHUCKIE" O'BRIEN AND ANTHONY "TONY PRO" PROVENZANO FIGURE PROMINENTLY IN THE HOFFA DISAPPEARANCE. [redacted] THE ARTICLE ALSO INDICATED THAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO SAY THAT INVESTIGATORS "HAVE NO EVIDENCE" THAT TEAMSTER PRESIDENT FRANK FITZSIMMONS WAS INVOLVED IN THE HOFFA DISAPPEARANCE. COMPLETE TEXT OF THE ARTICLE SENT TO BUREAU VIA FACSIMILE, AM APRIL 23, 1976.

[redacted]

Non-public source material

FED[illegible] BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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[redacted]

non public source material

139

AUG 17 1976

[redacted]

non public source material

ADMINISTRATIVE: "THE DETROIT NEWS", A DAILY DETROIT NEWSPAPER, RAN A SERIES OF ARTICLES FROM AUGUST 2 - AUGUST 6, 1976, REGARDING FBI WIRETAP OF ANTHONY AND VITO GIACALONE'S BUSINESS, HOME JUICE COMPANY, DETROIT, DURING PERIOD 1961-1964. ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, THESE WIRETAPS REVEALED THERE WAS A PLAN IN 1963 BY THE GIACALONES TO POSSIBLY ABDUCT JRH AT THAT TIME. THIS PROPOSAL WAS VETOED BY DETROIT LCN BOSS, ANTHONY ZERELLI, BECAUSE THE DETROIT MOB FELT THEY NEEDED JRH IN HIS CAPACITY AS HEAD OF THE TEAMSTERS UNION. A COMPLETE SET OF THE SERIES OF ARTICLES WAS SENT TO FBIHQ DIVISION 9.

END.

HOLD PLS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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non public source material

9-60052-1933

EX-106 REC-52

14 JUL 27 1976

A AUG 5 1976

[redacted]

DETROIT NEWS MEDIA REPORTED ON JULY 22, 1976, THAT ROBERT C. OZER, HEAD OF DETROIT ORGANIZED CRIME STRIKE FORCE, WAS DISMISSED BY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OFFICIALS. OZER, WHO HAS HEADED DETROIT FGJ INQUIRY INTO JRH DISAPPEARNCE, IS REPORTEDLY ON EXTENDED LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND IS EXPECTED TO RESIGN. OZER REPLACED BY ACTING CHIEF GEOFFREY ANDERSON FOR PRESENT TIME. NO PERMANENT REPLACEMENT HAS BEEN NAMED.

[redacted]

non public source material in bracket

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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END PAGE ONE

non public source materials
EX-109

9-66632-2003

REC-13

22 AUG 24 1976

54 SEP3 1976

[redacted]

non-public source material

ADMINISTRATIVE

[redacted]

NEWARK FILES REFLECT FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

ON 4/29/73 "Y. SUNDAY TIMES PUBLISHED ARTICLE BY

END PAGE THREE

DENNY WALSH, LOS ANGELES BYLINE 4/25/73 WHICH STATED THAT EIGHT WEEKS PRIOR TO BYLINE, ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD G. KLEINDIENST AND ASS'T ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY PETERSON TURNED DOWN FBI REQUEST TO CONTINUE ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE AT PEOPLE'S INDUSTRIAL CONSULTANTS, 9777 WILSHIRE BLVD., LOS ANGELES, (ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE APPARENTLY ASSOCIATED WITH CASE INVOLVING PREPAID HEALTH PLAN PAID FOR BY CENTRAL STATES WELFARE FUND). ARTICLE STATES ELSUR REGAN 1/25/73; EXTENDED 2/14/73 UNTIL MARCH 6, 1973; ELSUR DISALLOWED AFTER MARCH 6, 1973. ARTICLE ALLEGES "KLEINDIENST - PETERSON DECISION" CAME LESS THAN MONTH BEFORE CHARLES COLSON, SPECIAL COUNSEL TO PRESIDENT, LEFT WHITE HOUSE TO JOIN WASHINGTON LAW FIRM TO WHICH FITZSIMMONS HAS TRANSFERRED UNION LEGAL BUSINESS." ARTICLE ALSO ALLEGES COLSON INSTRUMENTAL IN FORMULATING ADMINISTRATION POLITICAL STRATEGY RE ORGANIZED LABOR.

[redacted]

END PAGE FOUR

non public source material

[redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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[redacted]

7 AUG 31 1976

[redacted]

non public source material

58 SEP 7 1976

[redacted]

RE: "NEWSWEEK" MAGAZINE ARTICLE.

IN "NEWSWEEK" MAGAZINE ISSUE DATED AUGUST 30, 1976, AN ARTICLE ENTITLED "A BREAK IN THE HOFFA CASE", IT WAS [redacted] REPORTED THAT FBI KNOWS BASICALLY ALL DETAILS OF HOFFA ABDUCTION AND MURDER, INCLUDING WHERE MURDER TOOK PLACE ("A PRIVATE RESIDENCE ONLY FOUR MINUTES AWAY") AND THE FACT HE WAS "GARROTED". ARTICLE FURTHER INDICATES THAT "THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT CHUCKIE (O'BRIEN) WAS USED".

THE ARTICLE QUOTES VARIOUS FEDERAL SOURCES, [redacted]

BT

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ST 106

[redacted]

22 SEP 9 1976

non public source material

FBI
SEP 8 1976
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54 SEP 17 1976

AN ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE "STAR", A NEW YORK WEEKLY NEWSPAPER ON AUGUST 31, 1976, ENTITLED, "JIMMY HOFFA: HIT MAN NAMES TWO KILLERS". THE REPORTERS, PIERS AKERMAN, PETER BRENNAN CREDIT THEIR INFORMATION TO AN INTERNATIONAL HIT MAN KNOWN TO THEM ONLY AS "MR. JOSEPHS". [redacted]

[redacted]

non public source material

IN THE ARTICLE, "MR. JOSEPHS" ADVISED THAT HOFFA HIT MEN WERE AZZURI FROM FRANCE AND A LAS VEGAS HOODLUM, JOE SPILOTRO. HE FURTHER ADVISED HE WAS CONTRACTED ALONG WITH HIS PARTNER, FRANK DE PLEDGE BY TONY PROVENZANO AND CHUCKIE O'BRIEN TO KILL AZZURI AND SPILOTRO. HE SAID DE PLEDGE KILLED AZZURI AND HE, "MR. JOSEPHS", WAS IN LAS VEGAS SURVEILLANCE SPILOTRO WHEN, FOR AN UNKNOWN REASON, SPILOTRO'S HIT WAS CANCELLED.

[redacted]

non public source material

[redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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[redacted]

non public source material

7-604529

24 OCT 13 1976

FBI

20 OCT 20 1976

RE: CHARLES CRIMALDI: ON OCT. 3 AND 4, 1976, STORIES APPEARED IN DETROIT'S TWO (2) LOCAL NEWSPAPERS CONCERNING A NEW BOOK ENTITLED "CRIMALDI, CONTRACT KILLER", ACROPOLIS BOOKS, WHICH HE WROTE IN COLLABORATION WITH JOHN KIDNER, IDENTIFIED AS A RETIRED AIR FORCE COLONEL.

THE NEWS ARTICLE SAYS IN SUBSTANCE THAT JAMES R. HOFFA WAS SLAIN ON ORDERS FROM THE CIA AND BY THE SAME PERSON WHO KILLED SAM GIANCANA OF CHICAGO. THE BOOK CONTENDS HOFFA WAS THE LIAISON BETWEEN CIA AND THE MAFIA IN UNSUCCESSFUL PLOTS TO ASSASSINATE CUBAN PREMIER FIDEL CASTRO. THE MOTIVE FOR THESE TWO (2) KILLINGS WAS THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE CASTRO PLOTS.

[redacted]

non public source material

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



Ex-Gangster Claims CIA Killed Hoffa

WASHINGTON—A horrifying new version of what happened to Jimmy Hoffa is contained in a forthcoming book by a professional underworld killer.

Hoffa was murdered and his body dumped into a junkyard car, which was crushed and smelted, according to Charles (Chuckie) Crimaldi, a former Chicago hit man, who is now cooperating with federal authorities.

Crimaldi claims the former Teamsters Union boss and ex-convict was killed on orders of the CIA but offers no proof.

His book describes Hoffa as the agency's original liaison with the mob in the plot to assassinate Cuban Premier Fidel Castro in the early '60s, a version that does not square with official accounts of that episode.

"The same man that killed Momo (gangster Sam Giancana) took care of Hoffa for the same reason: He knew about the Castro plots," Crimaldi states.

Giancana was mysteriously gunned down last year shortly before he was scheduled to testify before a Senate committee investigating alleged CIA assassination plots.

Within weeks Hoffa disappeared, a case that has baffled the FBI for more than a year.

In August of this year, the body of John Roselli, said to be involved in the Castro plot, was found floating in an oil drum off the coast of Florida.

CRIMALDI HAS a new, secret identity provided by drug enforcement authorities. He works as a plumber, a trade learned in prison, and maintains contact with a few old mobster pals.

At the same time, gangland enemies are said to have put a $50,000 price on Crimaldi's head.

For the past three years he has poured out his life story in taped sessions with John Kidner, a retired Air Force colonel and free-lance writer. The resulting first-person account ("Crimaldi, Contract Killer," Acropolis Books), billed as a true story, is a brutal, sadistic tale of mob and prison life, its pages filled with killings, beatings and obscenity.

Kidner says he does not know where Crimaldi lives and has no direct way of communicating. When he wants to see the former mobster, he places an ad in a Chicago newspaper. Days or weeks later, Crimaldi turns up. Sometimes contact has to be made through federal drug officials.



Hoffa: murdered, crushed, smelted?

In the book, Crimaldi describes a meeting in Chicago in the '60s with Giancana, during which he asked loan shark Sam DeStefano, Crimaldi's boss, who is now dead, to make the hit on Castro.

"I was tapped by some guys from the CIA," Giancana explained. "I was promised special government consideration for a lot of aggravation that was coming my way."

The mobsters were thrown into confusion and consternation by the source of the request. If DeStefano took on the job, he said, he would want Crimaldi to accompany him to Cuba.

Giancana outlined what he said was the CIA plan:

"What you guys will do is jump bail. It'll be in all the papers how two gangsters skipped the country so there won't be anything phoney about your leaving. After you're situated in South America, you'll be contacted."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) 3F
Detroit Free Press
Detroit, Michigan

Date: 10/3/76
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Author:
Editor: Joe H. Stroud
Title:
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☐ Being Investigated

148

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

New book ties CIA to Hoffa murder

MIAMI — (UPI) — A new book by a reputed former Chicago underworld assassin will assert that ex-Teamsters President Jimmy Hoffa was slain on orders from the Central Intelligence Agency by the same person who killed underworld overlord Sam "Mooney" Giancana at his Oak Park, Ill., home in 1975, the Miami Herald reported yesterday.

The Herald said that in the forthcoming book Charles "Chuckie" Crimaldi will claim that Hoffa's body was placed in a car at an auto junkyard. The scrapped car was then compressed into a block of metal and dumped into a steel smelter.

The book claims Hoffa and Giancana both were slain on orders from the CIA. It contends Hoffa was the liaison between the CIA and the Mafia in unsuccessful plots to assassinate Cuban Premier Fidel Castro.

The Herald noted that Crimaldi offers no proof that the CIA arranged Hoffa's disappearance and Giancana's death and his account of Hoffa involvement in the anti-Castro plots does not concur with official accounts.

The Herald said Crimaldi will say in the book, "The same man that killed Momo (Giancana) took care of Hoffa for the same reason. He knew about the Castro plots."

Crimaldi will say that he was present at a meeting between his former boss, loan shark Sam DeStefano — another mystery slaying victim — and Giancana, at which DeStefano and Crimaldi were asked to take on the Castro assassination assignment.

Crimaldi quotes Giancana as saying, "I was tapped by some guys from the CIA. I was promised special government consideration for a lot of aggravation that was coming my way."

The Crimaldi book is ghost written by retired U.S. Air Force Col. John Kidner, who told the Herald he doesn't know where Crimaldi lives, and has no direct means of communicating with him. Crimaldi has been given a new secret identity by the Drug Enforcement Administration, with which he has been cooperating. The underworld allegedly has a $50,000 price on Crimaldi's head.

Kidner told the Herald that, when he wants to talk to Crimaldi, he puts an ad in a Chicago newspaper and then waits days or weeks.

Kidner said that, after Giancana was killed, he placed an ad and about three weeks later Crimaldi appeared.

"He came straight to the point. 'Momo was hit by the CIA,'" Kidner said.

"I told him that would take some proving.

"He replied, 'I don't need proof. The CIA used one of our guys, an import. Nobody'll ever pin this on anybody.'"

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) 2A

The Detroit News
Detroit, Michigan

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☐ Being Investigated

Wash. Post ltr'd 9/24/76 pg A-2

Kleindienst Revealed as Middleman In Placement of Teamsters' Funds

By John F. Berry
Washington Post Staff Writer

Richard G. Kleindienst, a former U.S. Attorney General, was revealed yesterday as the middleman in a deal that placed millions of dollars of Teamsters union welfare funds with an Arizona life insurance company.

Kleindienst said in a deposition on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission that his Washington law firm received half of a $250,000 fee for getting the Teamster life and health business.

The SEC, in a suit filed Friday, charged that Kleindienst's clients diverted at least $3 million of the premiums paid by the Teamsters and other union welfare funds.

Kleindienst said he received the $125,000 payment after "Five to seven hours" of work in late April and early May.

"I contacted, primarily, Mr. Frank Fitzsimmons, the president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters," Kleindienst told SEC attorneys.

In his deposition, Kleindeinst, who said he first met Fitzsimmons in the late 1960s at the Burning Tree Club in Montgomery County, described his relationship with the labor leader as "very warm, friendly . . . . It's been social and — well, it's been social really."

According to Jack Taylor, a Washington Post special correspondent, the Teamsters union, which claims it was defrauded on its insurance coverage, has demanded the return of the $250,000 fee shared by Kleindienst.

Reached by telephone yesterday, Kleindienst said he had not been notified of the demand but does not plan to return the money.

Kleindienst confirmed a report that Thursday is his last day at the Washington law firm of Welch, Morgan, and Kleindienst, which he helped to form in January.

He said his departure had nothing to do with the present controversy. He said he is "setting up office in Northern Virginia and spending all my time on behalf of a private company organized outside the U. S. and interested in investing here."

According to Kleindienst's deposition, the Teamster transaction was brought to him by another Burning Tree friend, Thomas Webb Jr., a Washington attorney. Joining the negotiations was Washington public relations man Irving Davidson.

Webb said that an Arizona firm, Old Security Life Insurance Co., had bid for health and welfare insurance business from the Teamsters' Central States, Southeast and Southwest Areas Health and Welfare Fund. Webb offered to split a $250,000 fee if the former Attorney General would get the Teamsters' business, Kleindienst testified.

According to government filings, the premium on this business alone was $23 million a year. Documents in the SEC suit show that Old Security had nine such policies.

Kleindienst testified that he passed along to Fitzsimmons Webb's assertion that Old Security was qualified and had submitted the lowest bid of a number of insurance companies seeking to get the business.

Kleindienst said Fitzsimmons told him, "Old friend, I'll look into it and call back."

Old Security got the business, and Kleindienst and Webb collected the $250,000. Kleindienst says that he does not think Fitzsimmons knew about the commission, and he told the SEC that no payment went to Fitzsimmons.

The SEC, in its suit, charges that Kleindienst's clients had a reinsurance agreement with Old Security, which in effect passed along up to 90 per cent of the pension fund premiums to companies they controlled.

Kleindienst clients named in the SEC suit are Joseph Hauser, Melvin Wyman, and John Boden, all of Southern California. Also named was George R. Herrera of Phoenix.

The defendants unlawfully transferred premium funds, the SEC alleged. For example, a total of $1.1 million passed through a Cincinnati bank and Diplomat National Bank in Washington on its way to a newly formed Swiss company called Szevco, AG.

More than $2 million of the premiums went to buy a Louisiana insurance company, National American Life Insurance Co., according to the SEC.

On Friday, a federal judge here froze the assets of National American. Yesterday, U.S. District Court Judge Charles R. Richey was considering an SEC request for the appointment of an administrator to operate National American.

Insurance commissioners in Florida, Louisiana and Arizona have taken over the operations of insurance companies controlled by some of the defendants.

Meanwhile, Kleindienst claims that he was underpaid for his services, even at $125,000. He says his firm spent about 400 hours trying to negotiate another acquisition of a real estate company in Arizona and an insurance company in New Jersey.

But the deals collapsed, and Kleindienst claims he was never paid.

Correction

A story in yesterday's Business and Finance section inadvertently may have given the impression that Rep. Bob Eckhardt (D-Tex.) attached amendments to the House version of a foreign payments bill in order to kill the legislation. This was not the case. Eckhardt supported the bill and his amendments were designed to modify its terms. The bill died in subcommittee because of lack of a quorum.

ENCLOSURE
9-60052-2178

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 12 1976

TELETYPE

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non public source material

memo sent in lieu of note y/l

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non-public source material

RE CHARLES "CHUCKIE" O'BRIEN (COB):

COB APPEARED ON THE CBS PROGRAM "60 MINUTES" ON NOVEMBER 7, 1976. HE WAS INTERVIEWED BY MORLEY SAFER, WHO INDICATED COB REMAINS A PRIME TARGET OF THE FBI INVESTIGATION. DURING THE PROGRAM, COB CALLED DETROIT SA JAMES C. ESPOSITO, THE AFFIANT ON A SEARCH WARRANT FOR JOSEPH GIACALONE'S CAR, A LIAR. COB CHALLENGED SAFER TO SET UP A LIE DETECTOR TEST FOR

SA ESPOSITO RELATIVE TO STATEMENTS MADE IN THE AFFIDAVIT AND IF DONE COB INDICATED ESPOSITO WOULD FAIL SUCH A TEST.

COB FURTHER STATED HE NEVER PICKED UP ANYONE IN GIACALONE'S CAR AND THAT IF HOFFA WAS IN THAT CAR "THERE ARE NO STEERS IN TEXAS AND TEXAS IS A BIG COW COUNTRY".

COB STATED HE DOES NOT KNOW WHO KILLED HOFFA.

[redacted] non-public source material

ON NOVEMBER 9, 1976, COB WAS INTERVIEWED ON A LOCAL RADIO TALK/TELEPHONE CALL SHOW IN DETROIT ON STATION WXYZ FROM 10:30 PM TO 1:00 AM. (A COMPLETE TAPE OF THIS SHOW BEING FURNISHED THE BUREAU UNDER SEPARATE COVER).

THE FIRST HOUR WAS A PRETAPED INTERVIEW WITH WXYZ REPORTER JERRY STANECKI, TAPED THE DAY AFTER COB WAS CONVICTED OF HIS TAFT-HARTLEY VIOLATION. PRESENT DURING THIS INTERVIEW WAS COB'S DEFENSE ATTORNEY, CLYDE B. PRITCHARD. THE REMAINING PORTION OF THE PROGRAM WAS AN INTERVIEW WITH PROGRAM HOST DAVID NEUMANN, WHO WAS SPEAKING TO COB BY TELEPHONE FROM FLORIDA. SEVERAL LISTENERS CALLED IN QUESTIONS DURING THE PROGRAM.

AT THE FIRST SEGMENT COB SAID AN EVIL MIND HAS CREATED A MYTH AND HYSTERIA ABOUT HIM. HE SAID HE DID NOT PICK UP HOFFA OR SEE HIM ON JULY 30, 1975. HE INDICATED THE FBI KNEW HE HAD TOLD THE TRUTH. HE STATED FURTHER HE DID NOT KILL HOFFA, NOR SET HIM UP AND FURTHER WAS NOT USED TO DO SO. HE SAID HE WOULD BE EXONERATED THROUGH TIME.

[redacted] COB STATED HE HAD INDICATED HE HAD BEEN SILENT UNTIL NOW BUT HENCE FORTH WOULD PUBLICLY SPEAK OUT ON HIS INNOCENCE.

[redacted]

ET.

non public source material

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PLS HOD

FD-36 (Rev. 2-14-74)

FBI

Date: 11/15/76

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL
(Precedence)

[redacted]

Enclosed for the Bureau is one copy of a radio interview on Detroit Station WXYZ (ABC Affiliate) of 11/9/76. The interview was broadcast on the DAVID NEUMANN "talk-interview-call in" program. The program is aired from 10:00 PM to 1:00 AM. During the first half hour segment, NEUMANN took a call from their reporter JERRY STANECKI who had previously interviewed CHARLES "Chuckie" O'BRIEN. From 10:30 to 11:30 PM this pre-recorded interview was aired. From 11:30 PM to 1:00 AM O'BRIEN, by telephone hook-up from Florida, was interviewed by NEUMANN and several listeners called in.

[redacted]

Also enclosed for the Bureau is a copy of the CBS "60 Minutes" program interview of O'BRIEN by MORLEY SAFER broadcast nationally on 11/7/76.

[redacted]

(6)

REC-33 7-6005-2231

NOV 17 1976

"ENCLOSURE IN BULKY ROOM"

non public source material in brackets

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

55 DEC 3 1976

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 11/10/76

On November 7, 1976, CHARLES LENTON JOSEPH O'BRIEN, also known as Chuckie O'Brien appeared on the Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS) television network show "60 Minutes". He was interviewed on this program by Mr. MORLEY SAFER. This Agent taped this program from local Detroit CBS affiliate WJBK, on November 7, 1976.

The attached verbatim is a transcription of this interview.

Interviewed on 11/7/76 at Detroit, Michigan File # Detroit 79-359

by SA [redacted] Date dictated 11/10/76

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60 MINUTES INTERVIEW

MORLEY SAFER:
...one name quickly comes up - Chuckie O'Brien - who legend has it was as a son to Jimmy and Josephine Hoffa. It's difficult to believe that O'Brien, raised by Hoffa since he was six, could have anything to do with the kidnapping of his own father but the suspicion persists. Jimmy Hoffa only a few years ago was the most powerful labor leader in America. He was trying to regain the presidency of the Teamsters Union when he disappeared. The theory, and it's still only a theory, is that Hoffa was kidnapped and murdered by criminal elements who feared his return to power. It must be remembered that whoever controls the Teamsters controls the two billion dollar Teamsters Pension Fund. Chuckie O'Brien like Jimmy Hoffa has spent his adult life in the Teamsters. The day of Hoffa's abduction he was seen in the neighborhood of the restaurant parking lot where Hoffa himself was last seen. Chuckie O'Brien is also a friend of two principle characters in the Federal investigation - two men it's been alleged Hoffa was to have met at that restaurant - Anthony Giacalone, a figure well-known to the Detroit underworld, and Tony Provenzano, a Teamster leader from New Jersey who had served time with Hoffa at Lewisburg Prison. And Chuckie O'Brien is also close to Frank Fitzsimmons, the present head of the Teamsters Union, and the man Hoffa was trying to depose in his bid for the presidency. It's no secret that Hoffa had accused O'Brien of disloyalty when O'Brien continued to support Fitzsimmons and thus Chuckie O'Brien has become a prime target for the FBI investigation. The FBI says that wittingly or unwittingly you had something to do with the disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa.

CHUCKIE O'BRIEN:
There is one Agent and his name is James Esposito. Uh, he wrote an Affidavit relative to the car that I had borrowed that particular day. Uh, I said publicly to you and I said publicly in Detroit I believe that it's, it's without a doubt he's a liar.

SAFER:
Let me just read what he says. He said, Esposito says "I feel that probable cause exists to believe that Charlies O'Brien (you) has used Joseph Giacalone's automobile to facilitate an abduction of Hoffa".

O'BRIEN:
Well again I say he's a liar and I say to you Mr. Safer that if you wanna set up a, a lie detector test with three of the best experts in this country and you can get Esposito to get on your show and give him a list of questions relative to his statements in that Affidavit and my statements where I was that day and where I was with that car, that I'll be willing and ready to do it anytime.

SAFER:
What you're saying is that at no point you went to the airport and picked up two or three men.

O'BRIEN:
Never happened, uh, that I ever picked up anybody in that Mercury and I say to you that if Jimmy Hoffa was ever in that Mercury there's no steers in Texas and Texas is big cow county and I wanna, and I wanna again say to you, you get Esposito and I together and you put on the lie detector test and I guarantee you'll see somebody flunk it and it won't be O'Brien.

SAFER:
Who killed Jimmy Hoffa?

O'BRIEN:
I couldn't answer that 'cause I don't know. If I knew, if I knew, if I knew and I cooperated, as long as I cooperated with the authorities, uh, we'd find out.

SAFER:
Will they ever find him?

O'BRIEN:
I don't know.

SAFER:
Jimmy Hoffa disappears that day, the next thing we hear is that Chuckie O'Brien disappears too.

O'BRIEN:
The first thing I did when I found out was immediately to call young Jim Hoffa. I said what's up? What's happening? And knowing him uh, uh my whole life like I have and realizing that he was under a terrible fear uh and never been involved in any type of pressure like that uh I said

look here's what you do. You go on out to the cottage, stay with your mom she's told me that Barbara was coming in and I said fine. I said where are your two children and where is your wife? He says they're here at the house because I had thought they were up north. I said fine I'll shoot from here out to your house, I'll stay with your wife and your children. Now if that is disappearing then that's a funny kind of a disappearing act.

SAFER:
Well why would young Jimmy, Jimmy Hoffa's son, his real son, why would he say Chuckie O'Brien's involved?

O'BRIEN:
Well at that point uh he, his emotions were running high and I said look Jimmy I said there are different kind of people that are gonna talk to you and there are people who are gonna accuse people and they're gonna say things. He continued to argue with me and he said I think you know more about this than what you're talking about. I said Jimmy I said I'm gonna pretend like I didn't hear that, I'm just gonna pretend like I didn't hear it and I'm gonna pretend like you're just tired. Don't start openly accusing people it's, it's not right. And what'd they say? I don't want you to come here. So I felt that uh at that point I was hurt and I kept it inside from the point that uh I just couldn't believe that uh someone who you devote your life to and your love could even start to think this way. And course I knew his mother didn't think that way because I knew that she was under physical strain because I don't think there was anybody closer to his mother than myself.

JOSEPHINE HOFFA:
Chuckie, he's here today and gone tomorrow. Could never find him when you needed him.

SAFER:
You say you're very close to the family and there's Josephine Hoffa at home distraught that uh, and yet when he disappeared you didn't show up to see her and when - I spoke to her and she said well you know Chuckie, here today, gone tomorrow.

O'BRIEN:
Well don't forget you were talkin' to uh, a fine lady who was under a tremendous stress and I watched her on your program and I think I know her well enough that uh, uh

within herself she knows that Chuckie was never here or never there because Chuckie was there at any instant that she needed me. I could stand up and face the world and I can know that I have paid my dues from my love and loyalty. Jimmy could never doubt my loyalty despite what certain individuals would like to slander us with.

SAFER:
Okay did you, did you help uh Jimmy Hoffa in his bid...

O'BRIEN:
Well...

SAFER:
to, to, to take over the Teamsters?

O'BRIEN:
The first place he couldn't take over the Teamsters - number one.

SAFER:
He believed he could.

O'BRIEN:
Well...

SAFER:
He said so publicly. He wants to, to be the boss of the Teamsters again. There's Chuckie O'Brien the loyal union man loyal to the new President Fitzsimmons, but is there not a greater loyalty to, to Hoffa, Hoffa the father, to Chuckie O'Brien? What does that do to you? Where do you feel that your main loyalty go?

O'BRIEN:
Well my loyalty, my loyalty as far as my loyalty is concerned is that my one obligation was to carry out what he asked me to do. He said I want you to do your job and to support Fitz one hundred percent. Which I always had done. But Jimmy got, really became obsessed with the idea that he could run and if you told him your thoughts about whether he could run or not and whether he was right or wrong this got him into position where he felt you know right away you, you weren't, you weren't agreeing with him so you, you have to be wrong. But I said to him what I felt and uh and my, what my thoughts were and you know there was just no way

and you know it, the media knows it, that he was gonna be able to run for the presidency of this union.

SAFER:
You know what still puzzles people is there you are the son of this man in every way, he disappears and instead of cooperating in every way possible finding out who did it you're out there protecting your own backside, you're there with Fitzsimmons and what people, what some people would say his friends in organized crime.

O'BRIEN:
Well me say to you. One - when you talk about Frank Fitzsimmons and his friends, that's an unfair statement to make. Fitz runs the largest union in the world the same as Jimmy Hoffa. You meet all people in this, this walks of life and this business and I'm gonna say to you how I feel if I had to deal with Kruschev to get my members a contract I'd deal with him.

SAFER:
There's a lot of things said and a lot of confusion really about your relationship with Jimmy Hoffa. Uh was it more than a foster son, were you like a real son to him?

O'BRIEN:
He was, could, was like a father to me. Uh there's no question about that. That he saw through me a son that was in the labor movement because young Jim was never interested in labor movement.

SAFER:
That be...

O'BRIEN:
My relationship was as a foster son. Okay? When he went away Morley, when he, when, even before he went away, one of the things he wanted to, to me to do was to think about becoming legally his step-son. Uh I thought about it for a long time and uh I told him fine, I'd be more than happy to do that.

SAFER:
Well that being the case that, that, that closeness uh, uh Hoffa disappears, you get called in front of the grand jury, and you take the Fifth Amendment, you don't want to talk about

it. It's your, your constitutional right but I would think that, that the, the forefront in the mind of a son was to solve the, the mystery of the abduction and the murder of his father. Now...

O'BRIEN:
Well for two reasons. Number one - and you can well recognize it because you're in the media - at that point the hysteria of the media, and I'm talking about the newspapers and et cetera was so rampant and so wild. Nowat this particular time you had an individual running these grand juries who was a crazy man. I mean he was running around, Ozer was running around you know threatening everybody.

SAFER:
O'Brien is referring to Robert Ozer, the U.S. Attorney who led the investigation into the Hoffa disappearance.

O'BRIEN:
And I went to Detroit on my own. They didn't have to come with me with a subpoena. I spent over nineteen hours with the authorities. Now if in spending nineteen hours with the FBI, the state police, and anybody that wanted to come into that meeting, if by me trying to cooperate and help if I was part of anything relative to the disappearance of Hoffa why don't they indict me?

SAFER:
Who would benefit from Jimmy Hoffa's disappearance? Frank Fitzsimmons, Chuckie O'Brien, Tony Giacalone, Tony Provenzano?

O'BRIEN:
No one, no one and I'm speaking for myself uh, who benefited? Uh, uh what, what, what, what created uh this terrible thing has created unfair, unrealistic publicity on innocent individuals. I mean it you know it's just like you know to me what they're doing to myself, what they're doing to Tony Provenzano, what they're doing to uh Frank Fitzsimmons and our organization is totally unfair to, to him and all of us. I mean it's just ridiculous. Nobody would tain anything. Who would gain anything? There's always been that outside force that have only one thing in mind and one thing only - to destroy the Teamsters Union because we are strong, our leadership is the best there is, we get the best for our members as far as contracts and conditions and you know

yourself what's being happened today uh to our organization is totally unfair and I don't believe that anyone really believes that the disappearance of Mr. Hoffa was created by anybody in this movement or the people that are being accused. Now you talk about Tony Provenzano, you talk about Anthony Giacalone, you talk about enemies. That's ridiculous. Listen I went to that prison for fifty-eight months. I went there and many occasions stayed with Mrs. Provenzano and her family, a wonderful family and again I say that it's the imagination of the wildest people because there were never anybody closer in that, in that institute than Jimmy and Tony Provenzano and you talk about Anthony Giacalone and people say well he's this, he's that and as far as I'm concerned I, people don't like what I say, as far as I'm concerned he's a fine family man, he's a friend of mine, he's got a lovely family and I think that he's being accused as well as Tony has been accused by a lot of accusations.

SAFER:
So what you're saying is that the government's harassing Chuckie O'Brien, that they're trying to, that they're saying privately that, that probably unwittingly Chuckie O'Brien had something to do with the disappearance of, of Jimmy Hoffa and all of this is really designed to make you crack.

O'BRIEN:
Well there's no question in what they're trying to do but you know unfortunately uh I was born of heritage of half being Sicilian and half being Irish. That's a tough combination in this world to, to really get it going because they both get together there's a lot of trouble. They're not gonna crack me. They're gonna hurt people I love.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date of transcription 11/16/76

On November 9, 1976, CHARLES LENTON JOSEPH O'BRIEN, also known as Chuckie O'Brien, was an interview guest on a local Detroit radio program on WXYZ Radio, the ABC affiliate. The program was "The David Newman Show" which is aired from 10:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

The first portion of the program consisted of a "live" telephone interview by NEWMAN of WXYZ Reporter JERRY STANECKI who gave background of his earlier interview with O'BRIEN. Following the playing of this interview, NEWMAN had O'BRIEN on the telephone "live". He answered questions from NEWMAN and several "call-in" listeners.

The attached verbatim is a transcription of this program.

Interviewed on 11/10/76 at Detroit, Michigan File Detroit 79-359

by SA [redacted] Date dictated 11/12/76

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WXYZ INTERVIEW

DAVID NEWMAN:
Good evening and welcome to our Tuesday night program. It is Tuesday night isn't it Jim Murray? Yeah Tuesday night. First this cryptic reference. Fran are you listening? Fran of the Secretary of State's Office, that really was me. So much for cryptic references. No we proceed with more important business. In a half an hour or so we will play for you WXYZ newsman Jerry Stanecki's interview with Chuckie O'Brien who may or may not be a central figure in the Hoffa disappearance. Chuckie of course maintains he is not a figure in any manner, shape or form. This interview by the way by Stanecki even though it comes after O'Brien's innocuous and unsatisfying appearance on 60 Minutes Sunday night actually pre-dates the 60 Minutes interview with Morley Safer. I'm told that the Stanecki interview with O'Brien was in fact the first interview that Chuckie O'Brien has granted since the Hoffa disappearance. Now after this taped interview, at least the first broadcast interviews I recall there may have been a Detroit News interview. Anyway after this taped interview is aired Chuckie O'Brien will talk with us from his home in Florida. He has already agreed to that. So obviously to get the whole picture you're gonna have to stay with us for most of the show tonight. Once again, Jerry Stanecki's interview with Chuckie O'Brien begins immediately after the 10:30 news and after that Chuckie will talk with us live around about 11:35. In the first half hour of the program tonight we are open and we invite your calls and comments. The number to call as you probably know is 353-3030.

(Irrelevant)

We'll talk to I guess it's Jerry Stanecki, WXYZ radio investigative newsman. Jerry how are you?

JERRY STANECKI:
Fine. How are you David?

NEWMAN:
We are uh anticipating a conversation with Chuckie, Chuckie O'Brien that is, around about 11:35 tonight.

STANECKI:
I thought I'l uh just mention to you I, I was listening to the uh introduction of it. Uh this interview was done the day after he was convicted on the misdemeanor charge.

NEWMAN:
Yes which was couple weeks ago.

STANECKI:
Yeah about two and a half weeks ago.

NEWMAN:
Okay so this pre-dates the Morley Safer interview on 60 Minutes.

STANECKI:
Oh absolutely, absolutely.

NEWMAN:
So this is the first time that he has broken his silence for any length of time.

STANECKI:
Well it, it's, we have reported in the past year uh statements from him but not specifically his voice. Uh he's been in touch with me. Uh he's been very vehement in many occasions and uh and other occasions very angry at, at reports and publications and the stories written about him that he uh claims are total fabrication. And I said alright Chuckie put up or shut up. You'll have to excuse me 'cause I have a very bad cold.

NEWMAN:
Sorry to hear it.

STANECKI:
And he said uh okay we'll put up and he did, he showed up with his attorney Clyde Pritchard. Uh his attorney was present in the studio through the entire interview. Uh I wanted that, I specified that uh that he would not uh, uh put himself in a very precarious position but he still uh in the interview uh says some very interesting things. Uh for the first time he explains a lot of things and he is very convincing but uh there are also other parts of the uh interview that uh are contradictory.

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

STANECKI:
It's a very intersting interview and I'm, I'm really anxious to hear what the listeners want to ask Chuckie O'Brien and they'll have their chance uh at 11:30.

NEWMAN:
Yeah. I, I, I have not heard the interview myself, all I have heard are little bits and snatches of it of course, the little bits and snatches that you played for me a few days ago in which I wrapped for promo purposes here at WXYZ. So I will be listening with as keen an ear if not keener an ear than, than anyone else 'cause I haven't heard it before.

STANECKI:
Yeah he's very clever including, including uh throwing you off show and he, he brought up the Time magazine ad and uh it, it revolved around a, a wiretapping, a Federal wiretapping whether it was legal or not and whether they were doing it or not. But uh shortly after Hoffa disappeared I flew to Tennessee uh to talk with Chuckie who was in West Memphis, Arkansas, and uh, uh a few weeks after I left the home of a friend there uh the Federal Agents showed up at the uh home wanting to know uh what conversations took place et cetera and et cetera. Now either they had to do that through toll call records from the phone company or wiretaps. I uh frankly suspect it was wiretaps not toll call records. And uh when I brought that up at Chuckie's says well I you know I took a survey, I showed people this Time magazine ad with your picture and I asked them would you let this man in your home? (Laughs) So he's very (unintelligible) uh he's very uh, uh put together. He's got his story down, down straight if it is a story and he may be just totally opposite. He may you know be, he may be completely innocent involved in this but somehow his name got into it.

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

STANECKI:
Somehow uh Tony Giacalone's name got into it.

NEWMAN:
Well what do you think Jerry? Maybe I'm asking that prematurely. I, I, let me retract the question because...

STANECKI:
No I'l like to answer the question you asked. Uh I frankly don't know. Uh Chuckie O'Brien is very convincing.

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

STANECKI:
Very convincing. I think that uh, uh I don't know if this is editorializing as a journalist and we practice it it's my own opinion.

NEWMAN:
Sure.

STANECKI:
No the opinion of XYZ. I think he should never have been convicted on the charge that he was in the misdemeanor.

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

STANECKI:
And that strictly is a neophyte uh with the law but uh it appears to me that if he was convicted uh for allegedly taking, well I don't even have to say allegedly now, he was convicted for, for taking a gift of the car, uh they could convict him for taking a dinner, a cup of coffee, uh anything, any kind of thing that's worth an amount of money.

NEWMAN:
Well yeah I, I don't get the connection though. You are suggesting then that there is a pattern of uh law enforcement harassment directed toward Chuckie...

STANECKI:
They want Chuckie, the want Chuckie O'Brien badly.

NEWMAN:
Yeah.

STANECKI:
Want him bad. They feel they can squeeze him. I think uh...

NEWMAN:
And they're squeezing him with this misdemeanor case of which he is now convicted.

STANECKI:
Well that's part of it, sure. That misdemeanor case uh points in fact uh the authorities that I talked to, the U.S. Government, all told me and they were unanimous in their decision it should have never been an, an indictment. It should have been a point of information filed with the government saying blah, blah, blah, we have this which could be an indictment

but uh you know shouldn't be. Because you know it was, it was a move to force and to put pressure on O'Brien.

NEWMAN:
Jerry let me ask you a quick question I know you have to get back to uh, to get off the phone I should say you know because of your cold I don't want to prolong your you know your appearance on, on the phone and strain your voice. But uh it seems to me the whole business of wounded innocence...

STANECKI:
I'm sorry go ahead.

NEWMAN:
What were you saying Jerry?

STANECKI:
Said I'm not Dick Purtin.

NEWMAN:
Okay.

STANECKI:
He makes the big bucks.

NEWMAN:
Yeah I got ya.

STANECKI:
He's now working for peanuts.

NEWMAN:
Peanuts?

STANECKI:
Jimmy Carter.

NEWMAN:
Ah yes, yes he's working...

STANECKI:
(Laughs)

NEWMAN:
I'm lost. Anyway where was I going with that?

STANECKI:
You were gonna ask me a question.

NEWMAN:
About, about Chuckie O'Brien.

STANECKI:
Yeah.

NEWMAN:
He's convincing.

STANECKI:
Very much so.

NEWMAN:
And yet there are all kinds of contradictions apparently or implausabilities. Is it possible that he was set up himself, that he let his name and his closeness to the Hoffa family uh unwittingly and is able now to maintain a certain degree of wounded innocence because he was partly set up? You see what I mean?

STANECKI:
You're looking for the word betrayed.

NEWMAN:
Alright betrayed yeah.

STANECKI:
Uh I asked him about it. It's in the interview. Listen to it. Uh I can't get it out of my mind. Uh he won't admit to it.

NEWMAN:
Yeah but see by, by virtue of his being betrayed if he was betrayed that would involve his lying about it now. That's what I'm trying to say. So on the one end his wounded innocence is genuine in that he was wounded. On the other hand he's not so innocent because if he was betrayed he's not telling the whole truth about what happened on that day.

STANECKI:
If indeed he can tell the truth.

NEWMAN:
If he can tell the truth.

STANECKI:
You know?

NEWMAN:
What do you mean by that?

STANECKI:
Exactly what I said, If indeed he can tell the truth.

NEWMAN:
If he is allowed to tell the truth or if he is capable of telling the truth?

STANECKI:
Uh we were supposed to do this a long time ago and he had to search out permission.

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

STANECKI:
To do the interview and when I pressed him on permission from whom uh he wouldn't tell me.

NEWMAN:
Yeah. Jerry thanks for talking with us. We'll talk later.

STANECKI:
Bye bye.

NEWMAN:
Thank you Jerry.

(Irrelevant)

Now Jerry Stanecki with Chuckie O'Brien.

STANECKI:
Chuckie O'Brien, described as a central figure in the Hoffa probe, the disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa, July 30, 1975. Why? Why a central figure?

CHUCKIE O'BRIEN:
Well I, I don't know the question why, question why to me has uh been very, very important in my, my everyday life since this tragedy happened. I just think that uh the imagination of a certain individual and today with the, the magic of um the media, magic of television, the magic of uh the writing press, I think that when an individual has a, a, an evil mind or thinks evil such as the individual who created this,

this myth of uh Chuckie O'Brien being a central figure, uh did what any script writer in Hollywood could do uh with a few facts and some people's names and uh I think that uh the hysteria that was created uh about myself uh got such attention from the press, that once it got started it's like anything else uh it couldn't, it, they couldn't stop it and uh imagination ran wild. Imagination ran wild with a lotta people. And fortunately again I say when that imagination runs wild you can think a lotta things and I still think that uh when it's all over with and the real facts are, are brought forth that myself as an individual will be completely exonerated from charges that are unfounded.

STANECKI:
Alright lemme ask you this now. Do you think that Hoffa is dead?

O'BRIEN:
Well that's a tough question to ask me because number one I've never given up hope uh that uh that he isn't. Uh as time goes on and uh and as uh the uh months pass, the days pass, uh I'll never give up hope. I, I'm just, just hoping that uh whoever created this instant or whatever happened to him that, that he is still alive.

STANECKI:
We know that Jimmy Hoffa is missing. He is presumed dead, uh missing since July 30, 1975. Allegations have been made that you were used to set him up, to pick him up.

O'BRIEN:
Well Jerry if you believe that then you oughta go out of this studio and get yourself a job on a dock because I feel that you have uh the ability as a street reporter and lotta more experience thatn I have and you know me and I think every person in this city that's ever dealt with me knows my affiliation with Mr. Hoffa. And I say it publicly for the first time because I've said it publicly before and nobody's ever printed it but before I would ever let anything happen to him whoever would do what they tried to do to him or whatever happened they'd have to do it to me first.

STANECKI:
I'll correct you. It was printed, it was printed in the Playboy article that I did.

O'BRIEN:
That's right. You did...

STANECKI:
Quoting you that you say you'd go first.

O'BRIEN:
That's right.

STANECKI:
Alright let's get down to the facts of the thing. The allegations around the entire disappearance, uh the allegations that you set him up, you were used to pick him up. What did you do that day? You haven't said publicly what you did. Did you pick Jimmy Hoffa up that day?

O'BRIEN:
Well the reason I haven't said publicly what I've done because I, I learned uh over my short span in, in life and I, I learned probably everything I, I owe uh as far as knowledge is to, to Mr. Hoffa, that when something like this happens he always said that if any tragedy happens or anything that happened is instead of running around beating your gums you should sit down and try to figure out what happened and try to find out how you get to the meat of the coconut. Uh, I volunteered uh if you're well aware to come to this city uh to talk to the authorities. I sat down and I talked with people who I thought were sincere and were doing a job not because of the name of Hoffa but because an individual had disappeared. I couldn't have been anymore thorough or more, anymore honest in the two appearances I made before those people and I say those people I'm talkin' about the FBI, the state police and a lieutenant from Bloomfield Hills and I tried to explain to him uh and to all of them as best I could what my movements were and unfortunately uh the trust that I, I put into the people that were interviewing me was a mistake because they weren't concerned about the truth that I would say to them that day or the following time I was interviewed by 'em but would misrepresent what I was saying, uh leak things to the press, uh in, in one or two sentences and not the total question to what O'Brien did that day and they know full and well that that particular day and they know full and well that particular week that uh I was in the process of, of moving to my new assignment. Uh I didn't have any transportation. Uh I was putting my schedule in a, in a position that uh, that uh I was getting a ride from where I was staying with some friends to my office and then after I got through with my duties at the office uh in the evening I would work out some type arrangement to get a ride back to uh where I was staying until I left the city. And unfortunately the, the,

the place that I was being picked up for probably a period of ten days happened to be the shopping center uh where Red Machus' Restaurant is and uh I think that with me being there if I were to said I was at uh at Twelve Mile and Telegraph at uh the Ramada Inn Drive-In I don't think that uh Chuckie O'Brien woulda had the type of publicity that uh was generated by me being in the particular area where they found Mr. Hoffa's car.

STANECKI:
Back to my question. Did you see Jimmy Hoffa that day?

O'BRIEN:
No I did not.

STANECKI:
Did you pick him up that day?

O'BRIEN:
I, I did not pick him up. If I had did, if I had picked him up uh Jerry and I say this to you and to the whole world, Jimmy Hoffa would be sitting in this studio today talking to you.

STANECKI:
Rumors and reports, allegations - Charles "Chuckie" O'Brien was used to set Jimmy Hoffa up.

O'BRIEN:
Well again I'm gonna say to you uh unequivocally as I said to the FBI and to the state police and if they don't believe Chuckie O'Brien then it's about time they go to a grand jury, they submit whatever I said to them and they should indict me.

STANECKI:
What did you say to the grand jury?

O'BRIEN:
I, I didn't talk to the grand jury.

STANECKI:
Why?

O'BRIEN:
For two reasons. I, I felt that uh I spent some total of nineteen, nineteen hours with the FBI, with that state police and with any other authority who wanted to talk to me and I felt that I was sincere and honest because at that point I

didn't have to talk to anybody. I coulda said to the FBI look I don't wanna talk to you and went about my business and rightfully under the law I didn't have to talk to no one, I didn't have to volunteer anything. And then after I did that and after I was subject to the, the type of press, type of television, the type of news writing and every journal in America writing about how I set up Jimmy Hoffa I was subpoenaed to a grand jury. Now I found out one thing about a grand jury - a grand jury are a bunch of citizens sitting there who know nothing about the law. It's to me like a Kangaroo Court. You go in there, you sit down, and you've got one prosecutor or two prosecutors representing the government and if you try to be honest with that grand jury the only thing that's gonna happen to you is that they're gonna tell the grand jury that you're a liar and that uh this, this individual whether it be myself or anybody else should be indicted because they broke the law under this section and the grand jury's gonna say okey we'll indict him.

STANECKI:
Did you borrow Joey Giacalone's car that day?

O'BRIEN:
Yes I did.

STANECKI:
For what reason?

O'BRIEN:
Well sitting in my office minding my own business I, I get a call on the intercom and girl said uh Chuckie can you come here a minute? I said yeah. I went outside and one of our drivers from an air freight company was standing there with this large huge box and it was dripping and uh I said what do you want? He said uh I have a delivery for M. Holmes. So I said well he's not here but I'll accept delivery. I said what's in there? He said there's a, there's a fish in there. So when I got this, received this box and signed for it I told Mr. Holmes' secretary I said uh what are we gonna do with this thing I said it's, it's startin' to get wishy washy I could hear the water goin' back and forth and I said uh, uh I guess we oughta take it to his house. So I called around, there was nobody available and the only thing that came to my mind is I knew that uh Joe being uh very close to me and uh office was maybe uh ten, fifteen minutes away. I called him and I said uh what are you doin'? He said well

I'm, I'm tied up I've got some meeting and so forth and uh I said can I use your car? He said yeah he said but uh you gotta bring me right back to the office drop me off. So he came over and as he, I looked for him uh from the second floor and he pulled up in front of the building and I started down the stairs with this large box and uh with water drippin' and red stuff was comin' out and it got all over my shirt, got all over my pants and you know you, it happen to you you'd say gee-manee Christmas ya know what's ya know how am I gonna get this off? So when I got outside he uh well I'll put it in the trunk. I said no let's put it in the back seat and I got some newspaper and, and put it on the floor and there's a hump in the car as you know in the back seat where the transmission is and the box was sitting that way. He said what's in there? And I said fish and uh he said oh okay and that was the end of that and I dropped him off and I then proceeded to deliver this fish to Bob Holmes' house.

STANECKI:
Okay you're at the Holmes' house now talking to his wife. What happened next?

O'BRIEN:
She opened the box and she said to me what am I gonna do with this thing? You know I looked in there and here's this great big salmon weighed about sixty pounds. I said well I said you know you're gonna have to cut it up and I, she said I'm not, I can't cut that thing up so I said well all the insides are out of it. I said just chop the head off and then make steaks out of it. So I took the head off for her and most women you know they don't like to fool around with the head of a fish and I took that off for her and I started slicin' it for her and she was wrappin' it and, and she said I'll put it in the freezer. That, that when I said well I'm gonna leave and I left. And after I...

STANECKI:
Do you know what time that was?

O'BRIEN:
Uh that had to be 1:15, in about that area there, 1:20.

STANECKI:
Alright.

O'BRIEN:
And when I left I said uh I looked in, in the car and I said God I got this car all screwed up in the back. So I took

the car and I went down Farmington Road uh or Old Grand River not Farmington to a car wash and I went took the car in the car wash and car was almost empty you know with no gas in it so I said fill it up and I said clean it out and I said clean out that back real good because I spilled some, some fish blood in the back of the car. And the car came through and uh I went inside and I talked to assistant manager of the, of the establishment uh, uh who I previously had known when he worked over at another Jack Car Wash and we were just talkin' about normal things and after the car was clean I left.

STANECKI:
Again what time?

O'BRIEN:
Oh it had to be quarter to two, two o'clock in, in that area there.

STANECKI:
Where'd you go from there?

O'BRIEN:
I made one more stop at the uh, at uh the Southfield Athletic Club and uh from there I spent maybe ten minutes, twelve minutes there and jumped in the car and, and shot down the expressway and uh brought the car back to uh Joe's office and he brought me back to the office, said good-bye to him and uh went back upstairs and waited for uh my ride to take me back uh to where somebody was supposed to pick me up in the evening.

STANECKI:
There's conflicting reports and the FBI claims that dogs out of Philadelphia, trained dogs found uh scents uh and traces of hair and blood that they believed belonged to Jimmy Hoffa in that car.

O'BRIEN:
Well I'm gonna tell you what I told the FBI. That if I could have one of their cars for a week I'd put it Adolph Hitler or I'd put Edgar J. Hoover in that car because I know one thing uh at no time did Jimmy Hoffa know what kinda car Joey Giacalone dro, drove and he never saw Joey Giacalone's car and there's just no way that Jimmy Hoffa was in Joey Giacalone's car period. And uh I don't care if they bring Rinny Tin Tin from Hollywood but they ain't gonna, they're

not gonna convince me, they might convince their ownselves but you know Jerry as well as I know that lemme have your car and if I wanna frame somebody I'll frame you.

STANECKI:
But for the record uh and I say for the record now the FBI did announce that they, they found or their test found that the, the substance found in there was not human blood.

O'BRIEN:
Well yeah sure they had...

STANECKI:
And then they backed off on it.

O'BRIEN:
They had to admit that there was no human blood in there because they knew, they knew themselves. Uh Jim Esposito in his wildest imagination knew that there was no human blood in there that it was fish blood.

STANECKI:
Of the FBI.

O'BRIEN:
Of the FBI. He knew that. He, he knew that I told the truth.

STANECKI:
Why do you think Hoffa was killed?

O'BRIEN:
I couldn't answer that question because there's so many crazy things that are happening in this world today as we're all well aware of it. Uh things that happen on spontaneous you don't know why. And I couldn't answer that question. I, I've thought about that for a long time Jerry and I couldn't under, I couldn't in my wildest dreams could ever say why would somebody wanna do harm to him because he never, he never did anything but good for people and uh he was uh as far as I'm concerned the greatest labor leader that uh this country will ever see for my lifetime.

STANECKI:
Rumors were on the street that Jimmy Hoffa was talking with the Federal Government spilling the beans if you will about deals involving the Teamsters Union and the Mafia, uh Vegas deals in return for a deal that would see a 1980 restriction dropped. Do you believe that Jimmy Hoffa was talking to the government?

O'BRIEN:
Never in his life. They know that, you know that, you've talked to that man and lemme tell you something. We all have faults but in, never in, in your life will you ever believe that Jimmy Hoffa would talk to the government relative to anything. And again that word that is used so much uh as far as I'm concerned and I think they're just about running out of uh out of wearin' it out I think it's been re-thread about 90 million times, it's the question of the Mafia and this and that and everything else because you know Jerry that the licensing that goes on the, the strict control of organ, of the, of gambling in Las Vegas uh you know uh it's about time somebody started saying that uh the hysteria is not there.

STANECKI:
Are you saying that the Mafia is not involved with the Teamsters Union?

O'BRIEN:
I'm sayin' it. I'm sayin' it and I don't know who the Mafia is but whoever, whoever you think the Mafia is is not involved with the Team...

STANECKI:
Well organized crime then.

O'BRIEN:
Uh organized crime's not involved with, with the Teamsters.

STANECKI:
Tony Provenzano.

O'BRIEN:
Tony Provenzano is a rank and file officer, he was elected by his membership, uh he was uh elected under the rules that the government has set up (unintelligible) and uh he's a hard, hard, hard uh working officer of the local union.

STANECKI:
Alright Tony Provenzano, his name has come up in the Hoffa disappearance, he allegedly was to meet with Jimmy Hoffa to settle some old grudge. Uh to bury the hatchet if you will. This the theory behind...

O'BRIEN:
I don't know, I don't know what kinda grudge they have. Uh, uh, I, I...

STANECKI:
They had a fight in prison.

O'BRIEN:
That's a lie, that's a lie. It's the biggest lie that ever came down the pipe.

STANECKI:
You don't believe that.

O'BRIEN:
Never happened. I went to that penitentiary for 58 months and never missed a time goin' there. I accompanied uh, uh Mrs. Hoffa there on every visit she went to and there were many times that uh as a family between Josephine, myself and Mrs. Provenzano or her three daughters. We stayed together at a motel, stayed there two days or three days so that, that they could visit their father and she could visit her husband for the three hours that they were allowed and the closeness that they had in that, in that prison and the closeness they had on the outside and to say that they had a fight in that prison is the wildest, ridiculous thing I ever heard.

STANECKI:
Well how did Tony Provenzano's name get into it?

O'BRIEN:
I think that again it goes back to imagination.

STANECKI:
Do you think that Frank Fitzsimmons had anything to do with the disappearance?

O'BRIEN:
Never, never.

STANECKI:
There was not good blood between Hoffa and Fitzsimmons.

O'BRIEN:
I don't believe that.

STANECKI:
What do you mean?

O'BRIEN:
I, I'm not buyin' that. I think there was a, there was a, a close friendship there and I think there were a lotta people on the outside that tried to turn the friendship or the closeness around to where there wasn't.

STANECKI:
Jimmy Hoffa by his own admission said he, that, that Fitzsimmons was a, a dirty double lying double crosser.

O'BRIEN:
Well I think that uh a lot of, a lot of the remarks that were made were brought on by, by anxieties and by uh, uh people who wanted to create a difference between two human beings who had been together for a long time.

STANECKI:
There's a theory, strictly a theory, that Hoffa was hit by a third party tryin' to make a power play so that it would look like Fitzsimmons was involved so the third party could move in to the power of the Teamsters Union. Is that so far fetched?

O'BRIEN:
I believe it's, uh I believe it's again the, the, the imagination of somebody's mind. Uh let's be honest with ourselves and, and, and I've, I've discussed this many, many times with, with uh, with, with uh Mr. Hoffa. Uh you know and I know and we all know that there was a restriction placed on him and uh there was no way that he could run uh for office as long as that restriction was there. Now you know that Jerry.

STANECKI:
But rumors were that the court was ready to overturn it.

O'BRIEN:
Well...

STANECKI:
The Attorney General of the United States sent a memo to the President of the United States saying he felt it was an unconstitutional restriction.

O'BRIEN:
Now which Attorney General of the United States you...

STANECKI:
Levi.

O'BRIEN:
Levi did?

STANECKI:
Yes.

O'BRIEN:
Uh huh.

STANECKI:
And Levi lady, later publicly denied that he did that.

O'BRIEN:
That's right.

STANECKI:
But he also said...

O'BRIEN:
Jimmy Hoffa never got a break from the courts at a higher level that I know of. We uncovered the FBI blatantly uh wiretapping, surveilling lawyers, uh bugging rooms...

STANECKI:
In Tennessee.

O'BRIEN:
In Tennessee.

STANECKI:
Right.

O'BRIEN:
And, and would we win? We had uh two weeks of hearing and the results were the motion denied, motion denied in the 6th Circuit and motion denied in the Supreme Court of the United States. So you know when they talk about uh, uh that Jimmy Hoffa was going to uh have something re, that was restricted on him changed. That'll never happen.

STANECKI:
What about all these people that all these names, the Briguglio brothers, Tony Provenzano, uh Fitzsimmons, the Andretta brothers? Uh why are all these names brought in? Why did Steven Andretta spend all the time in prison for not talking to the grand jury? Uh is this a goos chase or are these people involved?

O'BRIEN:
I think it, I think it is uh, I, I think that the, the situation of Stevie uh, uh the time he spent uh in jail I think that uh I think that it was done because of the, of the hysteria and I think he again took the position - I woulda

took the same position. I would not of talked to the grand jury. They coulda give me immunity I wouldn't talk to the grand jury and I would have probably been in the same place they were uh that, that Stevie went. Not because you had anything to hide but you wanted to protect yourself...

STANECKI:
What about the Briguglio brothers?

O'BRIEN:
What about 'em? One, one...

STANECKI:
Allegedly an enforcer for Tony Provenzano.

O'BRIEN:
Well that's again the imagination of uh uh, of of some writer. Everybody's an enforcer, everybody's a bodyguard uh, uh you know it just, it gets to be ridiculous at a time.

STANECKI:
Were you Jimmy Hoffa's bodyguard?

O'BRIEN:
He was my bodyguard. I had the best bodyguard in the world with him around. He never needed a bodyguard in his life. He always said one thing - when you need a bodyguard you got a guilty conscience. And uh, ya know, uh it uh it always stayed in the back of my mind. Uh bodyguard uh, well this ridiculous.

STANECKI:
Chuckie were you used?

O'BRIEN:
Never.

STANECKI:
Were you used to set up Hoffa?

O'BRIEN:
Never happen in a million years. They'd have to (unintelligible) me first Jerry.

STANECKI:
Do you think you are going to be indicted for the disappearance of Hoffa?

O'BRIEN:
Well lemme just say this. My imagination is gettin' as well as some of the press and some of the, the people who work for the United States Justice Department and I could say only one thing - that uh, that uh I do not uh put aside uh, uh somebody creating a wild uh indictment. I just got through being defended by Mr. Pritchard in the wildest indictment that I could ever dream of and I've been indicted four times as you're well aware of and all four indictments that I was indicted on I won and they were, they were brought down on me because I was part of the Teamsters Union because I was as close association to Mr. Hoffa. I wasn't indicted because of Chuckie O'Brien, I was indicted because I was close to, at that time and still would be and will always be to Jimmy Hoffa.

STANECKI:
What about the fact that Jimmy Hoffa, Jr. says that you weren't close?

O'BRIEN:
Well you know again I'm gonna tell you...

STANECKI:
You're highly suspect in the words of Jimmy, Jr.

O'BRIEN:
Listen I can understand, I can understand emotion and I think that young Jim has had a lotta time to think about it and uh I think that if question was presented to me uh again I don't think he would come down with a wild statement.

STANECKI:
But yet you told me that you thought he would be sitting there having a drink celebrating your conviction.

O'BRIEN:
Well, I, I said that because again you see uh...

STANECKI:
Then again they came out and said you weren't the foster son, that's a lie.

O'BRIEN:
Well listen uh you know what? It, it, it's, it's a funny thing in this world when people can deny a relationship uh that I had and still in my heart have with the Hoffa family. Uh Jimmy, Jr. and whoever in that family wants to say what

they wanna say, I know, I know what I've done in my lifetime and I'm not gonna never put myself in the position to take and say to you or to anybody publicly but my personal feelings are relative to that family. I think that belongs to me and it'll always stay with me and if Jimmy, Jr. wants to say something that's his prerogative. But he's the one that's gonna have to live with it. He's the one that's gonna have to get up in the morning and look in the mirror and he knows when he looks in that mirror that the things he said about Chuckie are really not true.

STANECKI:
He accused you of being a part of the disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa. Uh he made a (unintelligible) about you not taking a lie detector test. Is Jimmy Hoffa, Jr. beyond suspicion in the disappearance of his father?

O'BRIEN:
Oh I think so Jerry. I, I, I, I, to say that uh about Jim uh is ridiculous because uh Jim is his real son, his true son and as far as uh birth is concerned and uh he loved his father deeply and uh never uh never could that ever happen.

STANECKI:
Why did he deny taking a lie detector test?

O'BRIEN:
Well look at uh I'd, be like uh your son uh something happen to you and your son taking a lie detector test. I mean to somebody to pose that question to him is wrong. Uh I can understand them posing a question of a lie detector test to me and you know it's like I told you on the phone from Florida. Uh I gave Jim Esposito a challenge and I still keep that challenge open. If he wants to take a lie detector test relative to, to him saying Jimmy Hoffa was in that car uh I'll take one with him. And I know one thing. He ain't gonna pass it. No way will he pass it and uh I haven't uh heard the FBI or Mr. Esposito call me and say he'd take the test. He knows he can't take that test because he'd get perjury and you know the FBI's in enough trouble as it is now and uh I hate to see another Agent get caught with perjury.

STANECKI:
Back to the question. Do you think you will be indicted for the disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa?

O'BRIEN:
I've changed my mind. Uh, I, I, I, I happen to have uh, uh a lawyer who uh I have all the confidence in the world

in. Uh he's directed me uh to a point, Clyde Uh Pritchard has directed uh better than any lawyer I've ever had in my life and I've had some, some top lawyers with top names and to help me in, in different situations and Clyde has changed my mind uh tremendously because uh he explained one thing to me. There are some people that go to work and they take something personal. There are some people that go to work that are devoted to the law and to what the law means for the people in this country. I think that the Attorney General that's uh now here in office uh...

STANECKI:
The U.S. Attorney in Detroit.

O'BRIEN:
The U.S. Attorney in Detroit is a man who is taking a job for the people this, of this state and representing the United States Government, the United States Justice Department is not gonna be (unintelligible) or, or run through uh, uh a hysteria thing where he's gonna come down and sign a bunch of crazy indictments.

STANECKI:
Do you think if Phil Van Dam was uh the U.S. Attorney here six months ago you would have been indicted on the misdemeanor charge?

O'BRIEN:
I think that if uh, if uh what I read about Mr. Van Dam and I don't know him, I don't know hom personally but what I read about him and what he says about the law and what he, his application of the law is, I would say.that he uh would have taken a, taken a closer look at the indictment, an indictment of law not of, not uh just an indictment to uh to put somebody in, in, in the, in the squeeze because it was a squeeze because I was told (unintelligible) uh a finger was pointed at me and he says I'm gonna get you.

STANECKI:
Alright so they're squeezing you, they're pushing on you, they're squeezing on you. What do they want from you?

O'BRIEN:
Well uh yesterday they got a pound. I don't know how much more pounds they want. Uh I'm on a diet and I'm uh, I'm tryin' to get as skinny as I can but uh, uh I don't think, I don't think that the United States Attorney uh Mr. uh Phil

uh Van Dam is going to allow somebody from his department to run into his office, lay down a bunch of crazy indictments and say this has gotta happen because it's true. Because I know one thing. Uh when you charge somebody with an indictment uh whether it be a misdemeanor like the one I had or a more, much more serious indictment you're not gonna do it out of hysteria, you're gonna take your time and look at it because to indict somebody and run 'em in a courtroom and then not prove that indictment is gonna be embarrassing on, on, on not only yourself but it's gonna embarrass the United States Department of Justice.

STANECKI:
Alright rumors out of the, out of the Justice Department they wanna squeeze Chuckie O'Brien, they wanna put the pressure on O'Brien because they think O'Brien has the answers to the disappearance of Hoffa. You are now facing up to a year in jail on a misdemeanor convic, convic, uh conviction. If you get that year in jail and they're gonna be pushing hard to get that year because they wanna squeeze you, the want you to talk.

O'BRIEN:
Well Jerry lemme ask you a question. If you spend nineteen hours with the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation, the state police and anybody that was connected with that investigation what more can I tell 'em?

STANECKI:
Then why are they leaning on you?

O'BRIEN:
Why?

STANECKI:
Yeah.

O'BRIEN:
Uh again it goes back to, to what I told you from the start. Uh something got rampant. They couldn't stop it after it got rampant and what the heck uh I was convicted yesterday of a misdemeanor but nobody I would say in the community unless they look closely at a paper would know I was con, convicted of misdemeanor. Everything that they said whether it be on uh the news media uh or uh on the paper was that, that it all wound up being something part of the Hoffa investigation. Uh chief uh, uh, uh chief...

STANECKI:
Central figure.

O'BRIEN:
Central figure whatever you wanna have in an investigation and I wasn't convicted because, because of myself as in, as doing something wrong. I was convicted because of the hysteria of the newspaper.

STANECKI:
Alright Chuckie rumors were that Jimmy Hoffa was talking to the government trying to make a deal. You say no way.

O'BRIEN:
No way.

STANECKI:
But if the rumor is on the street and the so called mob, the Mafia, the organization, whatever you wanna call it, if or if, if it doesn't exist, but let's say that organized crime in this country according to the senate committees and the government they profess it does. Now in their mind how are they gonna know that Jimmy Hoffa wasn't talking? The word was out it was a death warrant more or less alright? What about you? A central figure in the Hoffa disappearance. Are you afraid for you life?

O'BRIEN:
No I'm not afraid for my life. Uh...

STANECKI:
Is there somebody worried that Chuckie O'Brien may break down, may talk, may be a key to this thing?

O'BRIEN:
The only guy I can think about worrying about would be Esposito.

STANECKI:
Why?

O'BRIEN:
Uh he's uh he seems to think that uh I'm the key to the lock uh to this uh investigation and uh it's just notthat, it's just not true and lemme just say something to you Jerry about worrying. Uh you worry about uh all kind of things in, in this world but uh to worry about some harm comin' to you,

you'd have gray hair or your hair would all fall out in this business that I'm in because I've been threatened, I've been threatened by some pretty good people. I've had a house burned down, I've had uh all kinda things happen to me in my lifetime and if I was worried about uh about something happening to me I'd, I might as well pick up my tent and go out and get in a hole someplace and live there the rest of my life and I'm not gonna live that way.

STANECKI:
Alright reports were that you were hiding from Tony Provenzano. You uh hid out in Mobile, Alabama, uh you were laying low. What about these reports? Were you hiding out?

O'BRIEN:
No, the, I, I, I, again I, I don't like to be sarcastic about it but the, the day that they say I, I was hiding a very personal friend of mine was getting married. He happened to have probably five or six of the, of the uh Federal Bureau of Investigation office in Los Angeles come to his wedding.

STANECKI:
Now you're talking about the Bobby Adell (phonetic) wedding.

O'BRIEN:
Yeah. And if I was hiding the, the boss of the, the Bureau from Los Angeles and five or six of the agents were there, I was introduced to the, I sat down, said hello with them and, and uh, uh and, and enjoyed ourselves at the wedding so if I was hiding uh it's funny I got on an airplane and went to uh, uh to my wife's home in uh in West Memphis.

STANECKI:
Alright there's no question you weren't hiding there. What I'm referring to is a Newsweek report recently that, that you uh were avoiding Tony Provenzano.

O'BRIEN:
Oh I know what you're talkin'...

STANECKI:
At the convention in Vegas uh you...

O'BRIEN:
I had dinner with him and his wife uh and his uh, and uh, and uh some of his people one night.

STANECKI:
Well how in the hell could somebody report that you were hiding and avoiding the man?

O'BRIEN:
I don't know because I see, I see Tony Provenzano probably uh, uh one day a week uh, uh in Florida. Uh I'll either stop on a Saturday or Sunday and say hello to him, have coffee with he and his wife and his daughter. Uh so you know uh this thing about hiding is ridiculous. You know I, I read that uh article in the paper and, and the Time magazine and I couldn't believe it. I was on assignment in Louisiana and you travel and, and I think Clyde has traveled his lifetime and I rented a car from Hertz. So I parked the car at, at the hotel where I stay in, the Holiday Inn and you know crime is up in the United States, there's a lotta car theft. They stole my car. Well I don't tell the guy who steals my car, my rent-a-car, where to put the car after he takes the tires off of it. So he took the car and took the tires off and took the radio out and took the spare tire out and to all police report that was an abandoned car right? Well I called Hertz and I said my, I can't find my car Mr. Hertz it's been stolen. So they say well make a police report. So I called the Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Police Department and I said uh sir my car's been stolen in your city. It's a rent-a-car and here's the license number and here's the rental slip. Thank you sir. Uh I, my life don't stop because they stole my car. I had uh to leave, I had to leave the city uh to go to another assignment. I left the city of Baton Rouge. The next thing I know that uh, that I'm hiding in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, I did five television shows there because we had a campaign relative to the right to work law which passed there. I was involved with uh, uh national negotiations with uh, a large uh company uh that is in the process of making paper uh I met with their Vice-President of labor relations. Uh I spent four weeks there, now you can't hide in Baton Rouge when you're on television and I left there because uh I had another assignment and then I went home. Uh my wife's been, been very ill which you're aware of and I had to go back home because she was getting ready to go to Mayo Clinic. The next thing I know is O'Brien's car is abandoned in Baton Rouge and he's hiding. You know how do I change that? I mean I'm just one individual. How do you get Time magazine to turn that story around? I don't know how you do that. But I do know one thing - that uh I made my mind up uh over this last six or seven months and I only waited 'til this case of mine uh came to a conclusion that the people who talk about O'Brien better be ready to be sued because I'm gonna go after 'em now because uh I'm tired of my family being subject to the type of press that's been coming down from uh these uh weirdo magazines and uh publications

and uh I'm not putting myself in the process to, to uh start suing these people and let 'em step up and say now uh they separate the truth uh from the falsities and uh I'm gonna come out and I'm gonna start uh as Muhammad Ali said I'm gonna float like a butterfly and sting like a bee. And that's my intention.

STANECKI:
Alright. Uh several months ago the Detroit News printed a series of copyrighted stories uh of tape recordings, alleged tape recordings and buggings of the FBI of Tony Giacalone, reputed Detroit Mafioso enforcer and so forth and so forth. In those stories they made an allegation...

O'BRIEN:
Let me correct you in one thing about Tony.

STANECKI:
Reputed I said.

O'BRIEN:
You give him all the titles but uh I know him in my whole life as Tony and uh that's just the way uh I know him. And I don't know about all the titles you're giving him but I know him as a person, as a human being, as a family man and uh that's just the way I'm gonna talk about Tony as far as Tony's concerned. And uh I know what you're gonna talk about and uh I can say only thing to you is that uh I think uh I can't remember his name uh saw him yesterday on television, day before uh he said some right things about the Detroit News. Uh and I go along a hundred percent what Riegel said. They have turned that newspaper into uh an Enquirer because when they could put the kind of uh falsities that they put in the newspaper, to downgrade somebody and that's all it was. I, where were all these wiretaps?

STANECKI:
Alright so they...

O'BRIEN:
I wanna know where they're at. Give 'em to me. I haven't seen no wire...

STANECKI:
Alright they say, they claim in that that your mother was a good friend of Mrs. Hoffa, Josephine Hoffa.

O'BRIEN:
Lifelong friend.

STANECKI:
And your mother allegedly set Hoffa up for a burglary that Hoffa, that Giacalone was reportedly going to, to handle in Hoffa's Washington apartment. They said some, some pretty dread things about your mother.

O'BRIEN:
Well first, first of all...

STANECKI:
I know when I called you about it you said you couldn't talk about it publicly then because of the trial coming up. Uh now what do you got to say?

O'BRIEN:
First of all uh my mother's passed away and her soul rest in peace. And as far as I'm concerned she was one of the greatest ladies that uh the good Lord put on this earth. What the Detroit News said about her is, is a disgrace. Uh first of all it's kinda ridiculous to think that uh, uh someone is gonna rob somebody else and what they gonna, what, what's gonna be, what's gonna be gained by some type of robbery? And it just, it's so ridiculous that I wouldn't even waste the time to even try to talk about it because it's just so untrue. It's just...

STANECKI:
Well what is all this? I mean it keeps popping up time after time and uh again uh alleged Mafia members uh organized crime. Is this whole thing uh, uh, a, a conc, a conc, a concert to do away with the Teamsters Union?

O'BRIEN:
Well I'll tell you what. Uh they been singin' that song for the last 25 years that I know of and uh it, I guess it's a popular song to sing. I mean uh people like the intrigue. I, I guess, I wish I owned a piece of the Godfather, I, they did pretty good with that movie. And uh public and uh and the people that watch that kind of uh rhetoric I guess uh I guess it, it's somethin' that they like and uh you know right that's the popular theme. Uh who, who be next? I don't know.

STANECKI:
Alright. It was told to me recently that and also I uh right after it was told to me about a week later a uh story came out I think out of Miami uh a former alleged hit man in Chicago for the mob is writing a book and said that Jimmy Hoffa was hit because Jimmy Hoffa was the man that went to Sam Giancana in Chicago to set up a hit. The CIA reportedly is behind Hoffa's assassination.

O'BRIEN:
Well if they are they're, they're, they're a busy organization.

STANECKI:
Is that too far fetched?

O'BRIEN:
Yeah it, it's, it's, it's, it's uh James Bond I mean you know uh, uh they got enough problems to worry about the security of this country. They're not gonna worry about uh, uh, uh I think a person like Mr. Hoffa. Uh it, it, it's ridiculous.

STANECKI:
Hoffa allegedly went to Sam Giancana to set up the Castro attempt.

O'BRIEN:
Well if you believe that Jerry you'll believe anything. Uh I think that uh Jimmy Hoffa probably is a, is a patriot of this country was, was, is like that saying go - he was born American, uh he'll live an American, and he'll die American and uh it went all through his ancestory uh back to the time of the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth and uh...

STANECKI:
So if, if Hoffa was (unintelligible)

O'BRIEN:
Hoffa would never...

STANECKI:
By the CIA...

O'BRIEN:
Never...

STANECKI:
Saying that we need to eliminate Castro can you help us, would he?

O'BRIEN:
Never. Uh he would never get involved in, in, into politics at that, at that step.

STANECKI:
Did he know Sam Giancana?

O'BRIEN:
He probably knew more people in this country than uh, than uh the ordinary person because he dealt with all type of people.

STANECKI:
And as he told me when you're doing business in every part of the country you have to know what's going on.

O'BRIEN:
You deal with all type of people uh you know uh you deal with all kind of people, you meet kind of people, Clyde in his lifetime has dealt with a lotta people and you know that's, that's part of life.

STANECKI:
Why was Jimmy Hoffa murdered?

O'BRIEN:
I again say to you Jerry I can't say he was murdered. I can't say, I can't say that on this program or any...

STANECKI:
Why is he missing?

O'BRIEN:
I don't know.

STANECKI:
Why in your mind would somebody want to get rid of Hoffa?

O'BRIEN:
I told you before a long time ago Jerry I felt that uh, uh knowing him as well as I know him the, the things that he got involved in with prison reform. I told the FBI this and uh I could say it publicly. One of the things that bothered me was some of the people that he got involved with because you know in talkin' to him you know where his heart was. He had a heart as big as WXYZ's building. And I thought uh when this thing happened and I, and I said it then and I say it now that maybe somebody that, that came outta one of these institutes had an idea that uh if we grab Jimmy Hoffa uh and have a ransom note uh because he's Jimmy Hoffa he won't say anything and we'll do well with it. And I felt and I still feel very strongly that uh possibly somebody uh, uh that would think that way might have, might have tried to do something like that and uh, and then, then it got all screwed up and...

STANECKI:
You don't believe that organized crime is behind Hoffa's disappearance.

O'BRIEN:
I don't know who organized crime is but uh I don't believe that uh...

STANECKI:
You say the Mafia doesn't exist.

O'BRIEN:
I don't think it does. It's a word that's been (unintelligible) around pretty good. Uh it's uh it's a word that uh that it's, it's an (unintelligible) you know it's uh it's something that everybody likes to use.

STANECKI:
Organized crime?

O'BRIEN:
Organized crime uh is, is, is a different thing. You're talkin' about all types of uh crime and uh how do you place it? Do you place uh what's goin' on in the city of Detroit as organized crime with these uh you, youth gangs?

STANECKI:
If there is none of this in existence uh then why do we constantly hear about it?

O'BRIEN:
Well...

STANECKI:
People like Carlo Gambino, the godfather who just died. Uh people like uh Marcello, Carlos Marcello in New Orleans, Tony Giacalone here, Sam Giancana in Chicago, uh some of the people in Florida. Uh you mean their not members of organized crime or the Mafia?

O'BRIEN:
I don't, I, I don't know if they're members of anything but, but being a, a citizen and taking care of their personal business and, and taking care of their families uh like you and, and I and everybody else does and uh I'm not gonna buy all that uh, that uh who done it uh...

STANECKI:
Do you think you're a target of the grand jury?

O'BRIEN:
Do I think I'm a target?

STANECKI:
Yeah.

O'BRIEN:
I would say that uh that uh I'm like uh I'm like a bingo game where they put all the numbers in a basket and they mix 'em upside down and I think that uh that I'm in that basket yes.

STANECKI:
In your heart do you feel that you will be indicted for the disappearance and kidnap and murder of Jimmy Hoffa?

O'BRIEN:
No. Not as long as we have the type of uh people who have the authority uh representing the United States Justice Department that are here in this district now.

STANECKI:
Do you think that, that's fine to say but there's bigger (unintelligible) in Washington. We all work for somebody. This guy in town works for somebody in Washington. What if they say get O'Brien, squeeze him?

O'BRIEN:
Well they already got him.

STANECKI:
Well what if they say get him again?

O'BRIEN:
Well God bless 'em. But I'm not gonna worry about it. But I know one thing. The man who's in charge of this office here is not gonna sign some wild indictment because I think he's got the, from what I can read and, and hear about him he's got the type of guts that he'll say I'm not gonna sign that indictment. You sign it.

STANECKI:
You did not see Jimmy Hoffa July 30th, 1975.

O'BRIEN:
I wish I did 'cause he'd be here today.

STANECKI:
Did you kill Jimmy Hoffa?

O'BRIEN:
Never.

STANECKI:
Did you set him up?

O'BRIEN:
Never in my life.

STANECKI:
Were you used by someone else to do it?

O'BRIEN:
Never.

STANECKI:
You are not betrayed.

O'BRIEN:
Never.

STANECKI:
And you think when this is all said and done - do you think it'll ever be solved?

O'BRIEN:
Never.

STANECKI:
Then how can you be exonerated?

O'BRIEN:
Oh time takes care of a lotta things. Uh I think that uh when I get through with my law suits and uh and my civil suits as far as uh the law suits uh I think that I'll be able to prove to uh to the people who've been accusin' me that uh I'm an innocent uh victim. I have nothin' to hide Jerry. I could take a deposition with the best of 'em. But can they take a deposition, the people that have been writin' all this junk? I say they can't. Can Esposito take a lie detector test? He can't. He'd, he'd flunk it, and I don't want him to, to flunk that test 'cause I really say from the bottom of my heart I challenged Jim Esposito to take that test and he knows he can't take it and I've talked to three of the best, best polygraph test guys in the United States and they're available and they're willing to take him and myself and give us that test. And I think that's where it all starts at is it starts with Esposito 'cause he is the one that created this great myth that Jimmy Hoffa was in that car. I think once we clear that first step up then we go to the next step. But I know that Jim Esposito cannot take that lie detector...

STANECKI:
Do you think they'll ever find out what happened to Jimmy Hoffa that day?

O'BRIEN:
That's a, that's a question that uh I think everybody that's in law enforcement uh and uh everybody that who's concerned is hoping could be answered. I don't know. I don't know.

STANECKI:
Clyde, you're formerly with the government or the Strike Force, an attorney with the Strike Force. Do you think they'll ever solve the Hoffa case?

CLYDE PRITCHARD:
I think that as time goes by of course the chances are, get slimmer and slimmer. Unless something is, comes out or something is developed by, in the way of evidence then it will never be solved. I want to say that first of all Mr. O'Brien came here today at your request and um I'm not so sure that uh he should have done that but he wanted to voluntarily come here and to express his opinion about this matter of Hoffa and of the trial that he had yesterday. Some of his feelings are personal on his part and they're feelings that uh have developed through friendship through years and uh I have no way of knowing one way or the other uh the people that he's talked about of being uh good people, bad people, or what. That doesn't make any difference to me. Um I will say also that if there is to be an indictment it will be an indictment based on evidence but probable cause. I have told him that I don't think there'll be any wild indictments that uh it is my opinion that uh anybody that spends as much time as he did before a grand jury and uh with the FBI that they know everything there is to know, that he has given 'em everything there is uh to give. Uh and if they found no inconsistencies then if they indict him uh it's gonna be a frivolous indictment, and I don't think we'll see that. And I also want to state that uh Mr. O'Brien was actually referring to the head of the Strike Force previously who was recently released as being the one that promised him that he would get him.

STANECKI:
Robert Ozer.

PRITCHARD:
Yes. It wasn't Ralph Guy who was a U.S. Attorney.

O'BRIEN:
No. It was not Mr. Guy it was uh Mr. Ozer and it's not Mr. Anderson.

STANECKI:
Couple of other questions regarding the Teamsters in general. Uh I have been hearing for the last month to two months quietly on the streets that Frank Fitzsimmons is about to step down to retire. Fact or fiction?

O'BRIEN:
Well I, I'm on his staff and uh I've know Fitz as a boss, I know him as a, as a personal friend, I've known him my whole life. Uh that'd be a question that you'd have to ask uh Fitz himself personally. I have not heard it. Uh I have, was fortunate to attend our last convention. He accepted the nomination, he was elected and uh I know what he said in his speech uh that uh he had set out a, a, a program for the next five years for this international union and uh I just can't conceive that uh he's gonna retire.

STANECKI:
I am told that he's going to step down, retire, and name Roy Williams as the boss of the Teamsters.

O'BRIEN:
Well Jerry you know more than I know because uh, uh as far as I'm concerned uh, uh we have not heard that. Un Roy is the Director of the central states uh and uh business is goin' on as usual and uh I have not heard either one of those rumors.

STANECKI:
Alright we've talked now for an hour about this uh - what do you, have anything more you wanna say about the Hoffa case, the disappearance?

O'BRIEN:
When it's all over with and the old man always taught us it'll all clear itself up. And when this thing gets settled down young Jimmy's gonna realize and he's gonna have to re-appraise uh some of his statements. I make statements sometimes uh because I, I lose my temper and after I say 'em I'm sorry I ever said 'em. Uh I mighta say somethin', somethin', somethin' here today that uh I can say to Clyde uh who, who's guided me pretty good these last few days uh because of a, I get emotionally get worked up uh when I see people that get on the stand and lie and I know that they're been frightened by certain people of the agency of the United States Government. Uh maybe I'll regret somethin' I said here today but really right now I don't think I do. Uh I may offended uh Esposito who works for the FBI. Well that's the way the, that's the way the chips fall. Uh I've taken him on because I've lost uh trust in him as an FBI agent because I was honest with him.

STANECKI:
You claim that you are a, are a target of, of harassment, of continual harassment by the FBI.

O'BRIEN:
I would say that uh I've seen a lotta harassment and I've seen a lot of uh pressure put on, on uh people in my lifetime in the labor movement. Uh lemme just say this. Because of me uh I've only done one good thing. I create employment. I've got more guys watchin' me wherever I go uh than a lot more people that uh, that uh would ever believe.

STANECKI:
Have you been wiretapped?

O'BRIEN:
Have I been wiretapped? Uh, uh lemme just say this. That's a, that's a question that uh is a very delicate question. Uh the government uh and the United States uh Supreme Court has come down with some tremendous rulings on wiretap. Uh we now as citizens of the (unintelligible) have a right to go in and say uh I think I've been wiretapped uh turn over the evidence to us. Uh we couldn't do that before. I been told in Florida there is a court order wiretap on my phone in Florida and a court order phone, on my, on my office phone. Uh I believe that's a true fact. Uh how much illegal wiretapping and car bugging is being done uh nobody know.

STANECKI:
Why do you say car bugging?

O'BRIEN:
Well it...

STANECKI:
Did you, did something happen to you that you feel that they picked up information out of a car?

O'BRIEN:
Well the only thing they can pick up is myself singin' some ole hillbilly song and my three kids fightin' about uh who's on first and uh and that's about the size of it. Uh or uh somethin' my wife didn't like I, I shoulda done and didn't do. But I do believe that uh it's goin' on and uh and it'll continue to go on uh as long as there's people that uh make that kind of equipment.

STANECKI:
It's interesting to note though that right after the disappearance when you flew to West Memphis, Arkansas, and I flew to Tennessee and we talked on the phone that within weeks an FBI agent showed up at a home in Tennessee asking what you were talking to Jerry Stanecki about.

O'BRIEN:
True and you know I saw that ad of you, you, you have in Time magazine and lookin' at your picture I can understand why the FBI did that. I really do.

STANECKI:
You're not insinuating it belongs in a post office Chuckie.

O'BRIEN:
I've seen better pictures in a post office. And in fact uh I took a survey of your picture and I said would you let this man uh come in your home and use your phone if he said his car was outta order and I didn't get...

STANECKI:
Careful what you say about cars now. That one got you in trouble.

O'BRIEN:
I didn't get anybody to say they would let you in their house. But Jerry look I appreciate you, lettin' me come here. Uh you been on me for a long time. Clyde uh was, was a little nervous about me comin'. I gave you my word that when I got my case outta the way I'd come here as well as I've given anybody else because I've known most of you in the media for a long time. And uh I know one thing that uh I have nothin' to hid and now that my case is out of the way and we're gonna sit down talk about the appeal uh and uh do all the requirements that the government uh asked me to do through my lawyer and which was (unintelligible) report and so forth. Uh I'm going to come forth and, and take a stand uh to protect myself and my reputation uh as a, as a human being and uh and continue to fight and not give up the hope that uh that someday this, this terrible tragedy or whatever coulda happened isn't cleared up.

STANECKI:
Clyde?

PRITCHARD:
My only statement is and I, seems like I'm always coming back to the defense of government to a certain extent and I guess that's, and the reason I do that is because it has been my background and has been my training. I think that uh government does try to do a legitimate job. They try to investigate where they feel that they have to. Such as the Labor Department did in this particular case. Uh and I know Mr. O'Brien doesn't

begrudge those agents for the investigation that they did. Uh they have a legitimate right uh to investigate and a legitimate right to bring matters before a grand jury. Uh I submit, and it's not sour grapes although I am terribly disappointed in the, that particular verdict, but there was uh suspicion and there was uh, uh circumstantial evidence that and then that probability there was a crime committed but I don't believe that Mr. O'Brien was guilty. I believe that as much as anything I don believe. And I think the evidence showed that. There was never an intent to have the automobile given to him.

(Irrelevant)

NEWMAN:
That is our number. We are back now for the second half of the program and we are now live and we have on the phone with us from the Miami area as I understand it, Chuckie O'Brien. Chuckie how are you?

O'BRIEN:
Pretty good David. How are you doin' tonight?

NEWMAN:
It's been a long time. It's been an interesting couple of years.

O'BRIEN:
Sure has.

NEWMAN:
Since we last met. How have you been?

O'BRIEN:
Alright. Fine.

NEWMAN:
Uh I guess it's kind of a, a, loaded question.

O'BRIEN:
No I'm fine. Got my health and get up every day. That's what counts.

NEWMAN:
Okay. Where are you in Florida by the way?

O'BRIEN:
Oh I'm out in the uh I would say the western part of Florida out uh goin' towards uh the western part of uh the state uh oh just the other side of (unintelligible).

NEWMAN:
Um hmm. Okay. I assume that the reasons you've agreed to be on with us live after the taped interview is to further clear up the misconceptions about Chuckie O'Brien which have been circulated in the media and which you're very angry about. Correct?

O'BRIEN:
No question about that.

NEWMAN:
Okay so some of the questions I will ask you and these of course in addition Jerry Stanecki's will be reflective of the public insinuations about you and I want you to understand that those questions are being asked in that spirit for you to get an opportunity to clear up those misconceptions.

O'BRIEN:
No question about it.

NEWMAN:
Okay.

O'BRIEN:
Nothing, nothing wrong with this sys, that type of system and uh, uh when a person has an opportunity to uh be albe to answer a question honestly uh I think that's what makes uh this a good country.

NEWMAN:
Okay I'm glad you feel that way. Rumor one. A rumor was circulated that the job that you got in Southern Conference of the Teamsters was a reward for going against Hoffa and was a reward possibly for setting Hoffa up.

O'BRIEN:
Well you asked me two questions David.

NEWMAN:
Sure, yeah.

O'BRIEN:
Let's take the first one.

NEWMAN:
Okay.

O'BRIEN:
Uh as you're well aware uh I think you know by now and your listeners probably don't understand maybe the physical make-up

of uh our International. Being on the staff and the way we're, we're uh broken up into four parts uh of the country and the Central which is the larges, the Eastern Conference, the Western Conference, and then the Southern Conference. Uh back in the past I had been given some assignments uh, uh in the south uh in the Tennessee - Georgia area and I, I liked it very much and uh as I said uh earlier I think I don't know if you recall in the interview that I do like to get out in the field and uh and work out in the field. Uh I was looking for an opportunity to get into an area that was relatively uh oh a challenge uh as far as uh as, as (unintelligible) of an organizer.

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

O'BRIEN:
I think we're all aware of the need for organizational uh efforts in the south and uh I thought about uh about tryin' to go to work down there. I had a good friend of mine who became the Director of the Southern Conference uh who was a International organizer on the staff with me.

NEWMAN:
How long before July 30th, 1975 did that...

O'BRIEN:
About two years. Uh I, he asked me if I, ya know, he asked me in oh I think in 1971 uh if I was interested in coming into the area and working in the area at that particular time.

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

O'BRIEN:
And I told him I wanted to think about it uh I had uh, uh gotten back with uh the young lady who uh, uh came into my life uh a few years ago and uh then well got outta my life from the standpoint uh timing and I guess everything that when it comes to romance didn't work out.

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

O'BRIEN:
And he, she came back into my life and uh being a southern girl coming from Arkansas uh it gave me quite a bit of incentive to you know wanna try to go into a new area and, and

uh knowing that one of the things that uh would make it uh a good all around thing for myself and her was this, I could go into that area and knowing that uh at that particular time - you see in '71 the Southern Conference had about oh maybe five or six, I think seven at the time, uh organizers that were in the position to retire within uh a period of a year uh or a year and a half and there were going to be some openings in, in uh, in the Southern Conference and especially in the one area that I wanted to get into.

NEWMAN:
Right.

O'BRIEN:
And uh it just, everything just happened to just start fallin' that way and uh I got engaged and uh and had the opportunity to get asked if I wanted to come back down there. I think it was in November, October, let's see I think October uh or November of '72 uh at a meeting in Chicago uh when I had an opportunity I was approached to whether I, whether or not uh I'd still like to come back uh and go to work in that particular conference.

NEWMAN:
This is a good two and a half years before Hoffa's disappearance. Okay I, we've established now that you have the desire.

O'BRIEN:
One of the things that I was really waiting for I think uh, uh I said previously uh, uh is that uh, uh I was waiting for him to, to come home and uh you know be released from prison and uh get back to his family and then that would uh give me an opportunity to make a decision uh (unintelligible) to the conference.

NEWMAN:
Alright now lemme understand this. You expressed a desire, this is something that you wanted but part of it in your own mind as far as your own full fledged desire was concerned was conditional on Jimmy Hoffa's getting out and showing some direction one way or another.

O'BRIEN:
No I think uh, I think really in my mind was him coming home and be able to take care of uh, uh his, his duties uh run his household and uh and being with Josephine uh being there full-time uh that's uh that was uh my main interest and always was uh my main interest that uh I wouldn't make that decision until uh, until uh he did come home because...

NEWMAN:
Chuckie is there something on paper that said before Hoffa disappeared a, a document dating from before Hoffa's disappearance that says conclusively the job in the Southern Conference of Teamsters is yours if you want it.

O'BRIEN:
Mm, you mean uh written uh, uh in a, in a, in a paper no. It...

NEWMAN:
In other words proof.

O'BRIEN:
No.

NEWMAN:
That you were not rewarded in some way.

O'BRIEN:
It was, most of these are transfers and a, and a, uh and an opportunity to transfer's never done on paper. You find out, lotta guys saw that there's an opening and uh and they put in a request by your know you usually do it to, through a verbal thing first uh we, I, I've never seen anything uh other than uh other than appointment uh or uh or a transfer after it was officially made uh ya know then uh a letter is gone out from the conference Director saying that uh you're officially in, in the area because a lot of times like uh I was assigned to the Western Conference for over almo, almost oh God over three and a half, four years when it was supposed to be a six week assignment uh on the lettuc and grape uh boycott and it wound up bein' almost 48 months and uh...

NEWMAN:
In fact that was why you were on the show about a year and a half or so ago.

O'BRIEN:
That's right. So you know it started out as a two week deal then it got into six week and then you know you just, you're assigned out there temporarily to the, to a conference. You see we're really you know we're say we're assigned to different areas uh but uh it's up to the discretion of the, the general president uh if he says to me tomorrow, calls tomorrow and says look uh I'm gonna send you to uh Canada or I'm gonna send you to, back to California, uh you know I have to accept that assignment. Uh I can't say well I don't want to go and uh and I must fulfill that assignment.

NEWMAN:
Alright. You talked in the interview with Jerry about the business with Jimmy Hoffa, Jr. I want to clear up this business about your being Jimmy Hoffa's adopted son. There was reference to it in the, in the Stanecki interview and as it was indicated there there are sort of two stories on this and, and the other story is from Jimmy, Jr. The first story is that you were Hoffa's adopted son and all that that implies Morley Safer called you his adopted son in the 60 Minutes interview. Story number two, which I guess comes from the Hoffa family, is that the business of your being Jimmy Hoffa's adopted son was a semi-fiction that was cooked up to ease your getting into Lewisburg during Jimmy's prison stay so that you would be represented as a member of the family in order that you could serve as a frequent courier of Teamster business and so forth and so on.

O'BRIEN:
Well...

NEWMAN:
What's your comment on that?

O'BRIEN:
Again David it goes back to you know it's uh who shot Johnny and uh you know I get so tired of hearin' it you know it's, uh tryin' to explain it to people it's, it's...

NEWMAN:
Have you called up Jimmy Hoffa, Jr. and said look you know damn well I was his adopted son. What are ya doin' to me? How can you do this to me after the years and so forth and so on?

O'BRIEN:
I said that to him?

NEWMAN:
Well no I'm asking. I mean it seems if, if what you say is true it'd be a natural question, a natural confrontation for you and Jimmy, Jr.

O'BRIEN:
Well you know I, I, I would only say this. Uh, uh over a period of years uh the relationship uh as a family and has no, nothing to do with my occupation but as a family the closeness in our relationship uh was that uh of a foster son. Uh it couldn't get any, you couldn't, I couldn't have been any closer to them than, than a, than a...

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

O'BRIEN:
I was a real son. Uh the thought of uh, of, of the adoption uh had nothing to do with him being incarcerated because you know you have a right to have a list of seven people and uh that uh you can put on that, on that list to either visit you or write you. Uh my relationship uh was one that uh didn't require me to be adopted. It was something that we talked about uh oh as, as a family uh off and on and uh you know uh it was something was personal and uh I never really you know made it a public thing uh...

NEWMAN:
If I understood what you were saying to uh to Jerry Stanecki correctly, Jimmy Hoffa, Jr. has chosen to lie about the real closeness of your relationship with Hoffa. That's what you're saying isn't it?

O'BRIEN:
I don't know, I don't know whether he's uh, he's, he wants to lie about it I again uh, uh as I said to Jerry, I, I, I think there's some things in a human being's life that belongs to themselves and, and uh my love for uh for Jimmy and for Barbara and for Josephine and uh their children as a family you know uh I just don't believe uh and never would believe that I have to put my personal feelings uh out in the street uh for anybody's satisfaction except my own and you know as I said to Jerry sometimes out of emotion people say things uh that you wish you, you know, you didn't, you didn't, you didn't never said before and you wish you could get it back some way.

NEWMAN:
And you figure that's why Jimmy said what he said, Jimmy, Jr.

O'BRIEN:
I think that uh, I think that emotions had a lot to play with it uh I can't uh I can't look at it any other way than that I mean uh I'm not, I'm not gonna be in a position to tell you David that I, that I'm gonna say that uh my relationships or my feelings uh are gonna be to tell you that uh I'm very bitter at uh Jimmy, Jr. or what he has said because you know you get all kinda hurts in life and like I said it'll straighten itself out. It's just gonna take some time.

NEWMAN:
Chuckie hang with us just a second. We have to pause. You've already indicated to Jack Springer the producer that you're cool about takin' some calls from our listeners.

O'BRIEN:
Am, am I worried about takin' calls?

NEWMAN:
No I, I, you already indicated to Jack that that's okay. Correct?

O'BRIEN:
(Unintelligible)

NEWMAN:
Thank you Chuck.
(Irrelevant)
We're talking with Chuckie O'Brien. We take a call from Sheila. Sheila you're on WXYZ.

SHEILA:
Yes. Mr. O'Brien my question is I saw you on 60 Minutes Sunday night and my question is regarding Jim Esposito. Now you're questioning the integrity of an FBI agent. Now I'm curious as to why you don't take a lie detector test.

O'BRIEN:
I, as I said on 60 Minutes, I'm willing to take the lie detector test but I think my challenge to Esposito is that uh he's uh he is, if you have to read the decision of the 6th Circuit and why I've, I've made that challenge to Esposito is that taking the written decision of some uh judges who've uh, who've come up through the ranks as lawyers and who I feel are, it's, it's confident Jim Espo, Esposito as well, as well as uh, uh as the law versus uh, uh you know integrity uh they were pretty strong uh and really strong in the, in what they felt Esposito when he wrote this affidavit and why he wrote it uh was uh was not 100 percent uh the truth but uh usually in just uh a lot of uh I just uh well like uh I'm, how the one judge put it, he said that uh it was something that uh was created uh, uh or a story that was webbed to put into this affidavit to convince a magistrate to give him a warrant to be albe to go out and pick up uh that particular car. And I feel and I, and I really feel that uh I spent as much time with Esposito as, as an ordinary person and I put a lotta faith in Esposito

and (unintelligible) Esposito because he was, he was the main uh spokesman for the FBI and I don't know how many people uh can picture being put in a room with uh maybe four or five FBI agents and two people from the, three people from the state police and two from another police department and sitting there uh hour after hour and trying to be honest and give them the information and try to answer the questions the best to your ability and then after you have this meeting and in the meeting they say now look everything you've said here is confidential. We will, we will keep it uh with, with our investigators and we would like to talk to you again and I, and I said fine when, whenever you wanna talk to me just call me and we'll make arrangements uh that I'll come right back. And uh I did that that and then after I left uh and went back home uh to my family uh everything that was said in that room was leaked to the news media and uh it was always uh leaked uh and when I say leaked to the news media, to newspapers and, and uh everybody else as a source and then after that, that came down uh I felt that uh it, ya know, they, that he wasn't being honest to me and then I came back to Detroit again voluntarily and spent uh another whole day with him and uh his investigative team and again it was, I was to come to this city and know, ya know it was a private meeting and nobody'd know about it and soon as I left Detroit and got on an airplane at 10:30 at night and when I got off the airplane in uh in Memphis there's the, there's the, the media waiting for me getting off an airplane saying you just left a meeting with the FBI. Well you know when that happens to you, you know, you get uh you know first time it happens to you, you know, you think about it and the second time it happens to you well you say the third time shame on them you know it's not gonna happen to me again.

NEWMAN:
Well lemme understand this Chuckie. Esposito uh in your judgement at that point was squeezing you by selectively leaking in the media.

O'BRIEN:
I think so. I think that uh, I, I think the, I think knowing in my own mind, knowing how some of the people uh and, and, and I'm saying some of the people would use or try to create this big illusion. Uh, uh you know there were so many stories that were leaked uh from that meeting that were taken outta context ya know. And uh I just don't think he was honest and uh he could you know a lotta people run around with the FBI uh, uh badges which uh you know we'll, we're seeing every day. We got a headlines down here in Miami, a great big headlines

today that says uh, uh FBI to, to be indicted uh over 25 people that are, that were agents because of the legal things they did. I just feel, I just feel that they feel that uh because they are the FBI that they can do a lot of things that uh are not right to true to American citizens.

NEWMAN:
Sheila unfortunately we must end our conversation. Too many people wanna talk, too many questions.

SHEILA:
Mr. O'Brien you're clouding the issue by bringing in other factors. What, in other words you're saying that you would take the test to prove them wrong.

O'BRIEN:
No question about it but I want Esposito to take the test concerning the question of what he said in the affidavit relative to me and the car. Because if I'm willing to take the test I think he should take the test because he gave the illusion from the start which created this great uh news coverage of uh human blood and, and just everything that was just unreal. Uh I think he owes uh to the American community and especially to the world because the world is writin' about this thing uh, uh to step up and, and, and say okay I'll take a test and, and prove that O'Brien is wrong because I'm not, I'm not, I'm not afraid to take the test.

NEWMAN:
Thank you Sheila.

SHEILA:
Okay fine. Thank you.

NEWMAN:
Six minutes to midnight. Lemme, lemme tell you about a scenario Chuckie that was painted for me some months ago by someone who shall go nameless.

O'BRIEN:
Sure. Alright.

NEWMAN:
Okay it's somebody who's been close to the Teamsters at one time or another. It's not a law man.

O'BRIEN:
Um hmm.

NEWMAN:
This is what he says. It's my summary. Jimmy Hoffa wanted back in and everybody knew it and a lot of people inside the Teamsters and outside the Teamsters didn't want that to happen. They were worried about a clean up. Whether or not a clean up would really occur they were worried about it. (Unintelligible) they had a big (unintelligible) on a guy who loved to hang around, drink, drink and play golf (unintelligible). A guy a (unintelligible) kinda guy who would let them do anything they wanted to do which they were then doing. So what did they want with Hoffa? They don't want Hoffa back. Also another thing against Hoffa says this individual was the blood feud with Tony Pro that began in Lewisburg and which you said about in the, in the Stanecki interview but this person referred to that, a blood feud that began over the denial of Tony Pro's pension. There were witnesses to this. Uh Pro had threatened Hoffa's kids and grandchildren and so on. So the insiders decided that Hoffa would be hit and as a pretext they used the idea of setting up a meeting between Hoffa and Tony Pro or one of his people to iron out the Lewisburg situation but really the hit was in all along for other reasons. What do you think about that?

O'BRIEN:
Well I don't believe that and I don't think that, you know, I get so tire uh, uh of hearing that because first of all, David, I feel that our organization is, course it's the largest in the world. I think we got the finest members in the world and I think that it, it, it just gets me so upset because there, the thousands of rank and file uh officers and stewards that uh represent the people in our union who,

who just day in, day out do a tremendous job, uh are being always put in, in that, in that uh that circle that uh people are, ya know, are sheep and that's not true and the Teamsters have never been, are not sheep, they speak up for what they feel is right or wrong and this thing about Fitz again isn't, is, is uh, it's ridiculous I mean you know Fitz may have, have the, the the appearance of being uh, uh, ya know a person who is, is not flamboyant who doesn't come on strong but uh I've been around Fitz as well as Jimmy and grew up in the labor movement with, with Fitz uh running uh my local union uh when I worked as an Agent and ya know don't judge a book by its cover because he's a hard bargainer, he's as shrewd as they come when it comes to sitting down at that negotiation table, and I don't know you know what, what has changed uh maybe in, in the name of the general president and, and any executive board of any organization it changes uh, uh one death, uh one retirement or two retirements can change the complete complexion of a board but there's nobody that uh is uh is being uh criticized unfairly (unintelligible) because after all running this, this international union is a large tremendous task and uh, and like he said when he first went to Washington he said I'm not a Jimmy Hoffa. Uh he's always said it here in, when he, when he was in Detroit as a vice-president. Uh he said my name is Fitzsimmons and, and, and you know I've, I look up to him when he, when he said that because a lotta guys try to you know would try to say yeah they are like Hoffa they could take his place and Fitz was always honest and said he, he never, never was a Hoffa, he was a person of his own thoughts and thinking and, and, and he's carried out those directions. And again it's, it's just, it's unfair to, for people to say that uh without Jimmy around...If, if Jimmy woulda been eligible to run and lemme say this to you David, if he woulda been eligible to run there's no question about his eligibility uh (unintelligible) in 1980 and uh there's just was no way that he could run and uh, and uh I'm still waitin' like I told Jerry and I told Morley Safer for the somebody from the courts or from the Justice Department say yeah he's eligible to run but you know that, that's something that they...

NEWMAN:
It was a myth to you. It's never been proven.

O'BRIEN:
Lemme just say this to ya. I, I hear people who are now saying things about Jimmy Hoffa who five years ago or six years ago or seven years ago or ten years ago were beatin'

the drum to put him in jail. That he was a monster. That he could control the country. That people wouldn't get food, babies wouldn't have milk. And ya know all these people that brought this big harangue on and, and got him boxed in to uh, uh, a frame, uh and bring, and brought him from a district uh, uh where he coulda got a fair trial down to a district where he couldn't get a fair trial. Uh ya know I, I get, I get distrubed with this because uh it's, it's not true I mean there are a lotta people that are saying ya know we ya know we worry about this, we worry about that but we're really not worried. They don't care one iota. It's just the amount of publicity they could get and ya know we've lived this thing. I could remember as a young person first you had uh this committee and that committee and then we lived the McClellan Committee and, and went through this, this, this tremendous uh, uh harassment with uh, uh, uh then Senator Kennedy.

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

O'BRIEN:
You know it was, every politician needs a springboard and you know, we, we happen to be I guess when they talk about the Teamsters we happen to be something that they like to ya know get with the wild imagination, they use it and get a lot, they get a lotta news coverage out of it, they get a, get a lot of uh, oh they get a lot of things out of it except the only thing they, they, they don't realize what they're doing is that, that they're really not being honest with the, the individual who is a, who is a card carrying member and who is a, is, are five people in the, in the thousands of offices that are elected uh, uh by the process of uh, of uh secret ballot elections and uh (unintelligible) do a tremendous job for the people and that, that's the sad part about it.

NEWMAN:
Chuckie we gotta pause for just a couple of seconds.
(Irrelevant)
We'll talk to Chuckie in just a second.
(Irrelevant)
We're back with Chuckie O'Brien. Here's Ann. Ann?

ANN:
Yes um now he may have explained this uh because I did get a phone call during his interview but something that's

bothered me from the time I read about it was um he was in the Birmingham - Bloomfield Hills area at the time of Mr. Hoffa's disappearance and he wanted to deliver some fish in that area so, to a friend, so he borrowed the car of Joey Giacalone. Now Joey Giacalone is on the far east side in the Grosse Pointe area. Why would he come way over here to get a car to deliver some fish uh very, to a man very close to him who lived very close to him? You know what I mean?

NEWMAN:
Well...

ANN:
Joe, Joey's car, he lives out in the far east Grosse Pointe area and why when he;s over in Birmingham and he's gonna deliver to, a fish to a man over in that area why would he borrow the car of a man way out here?

O'BRIEN:
Well lemme correct that. First of all Joe's car. He does live on the east side but he was at work and his office is about uh with the expressway, Fisher Expressway, about twelve minutes from my office. Uh he wasn't at home and Joe's a young individual who's 23 years old and who is in the machine, used machinery business and uh he was uh (unintelligible) he was real close to my office uh and uh I just called him by chance to see if I could borrow his car uh because there wasn't anybody around my area in my offices that I could borrow a car from. It just was one of those days when nobody was around at that particular time and I didn't, I didn't go near the Bloomfield uh Birmingham area when I delivered the fish. I went clear out to uh very close to Novi. It was out, way out in that area there and uh if you, which you're well aware of Detroit, you just ya know uh cannot put uh Machus' Red Fox Restaurant uh or Maple Road uh and Telegraph uh within uh normal driving distance uh from where I was at uh within 30 minutes or 35 minutes and that's goin' as uh, goin' as fast as you can go.

NEWMAN:
Chuckie there were no cars available to be borrowed at Teamsters Headquarters?

O'BRIEN:
No.

NEWMAN:
You had no option but to call Joey to borrow his car.

O'BRIEN:
That's a, it's a, that's a funny thing. I, you know I looked around, it was at a time when uh there just was nobody around the building and I didn't wanna borrow one of the girls' cars uh ya know it just, I didn't, didn't ya know...

NEWMAN:
Why did you volunteer to deliver the fish? Lemme understand. This whole thing is very confusing to me. The uh Express driver, the Air Express driver came with a fish to Holmes' headquarters rather than his home even though the fish was addressed to his home?

O'BRIEN:
No. The, the fish was addressed to, to, to his office (unintelligible).

NEWMAN:
It was addressed to his office.

O'BRIEN:
Guys up in Seattle uh when the salmon run they go fishing and Bobby's very, likes uh ya know like most people likes uh ya know fresh fish, especially salmon and uh our guys went fishin' up there and, and caught a big salmon and sent it to him to the office and course it was real hot uh in, in, in that particular time of the uh, of the month.

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

O'BRIEN:
And uh they brought the fish to the office and uh at that particular time I was ya know I was really packin' up my stuff in my office and ya know turning over different uh files and assignments and cases that I had, ya know I had, had working on.

NEWMAN:
It was sent to the office. That was the address on the fish.

O'BRIEN:
2108 Trumbull. Yes.

NEWMAN:
Okay.

O'BRIEN:
And most, most guys when they send something to you uh will usually send it to your office uh, uh they never sent it to your home because ya know your home address uh within the joint council, the guys in the joint council or, or the people on the staff and that they have your address but people from throughout the, the international wouldn't have it.

NEWMAN:
Chuckie, why did you volunteer to drive the fish without a car, before you had secured a car? You didn't have a car, you said that in the Jerry Stanecki interview.

O'BRIEN:
They delivered the fish and the fish was there and Bobby's secretary didn't know what to do with it.

NEWMAN:
I see.

O'BRIEN:
She called me outta my office on the intercom she said we, can you come over? I said yeah. So I and I came out of the office I sae the driver there and said look then I, he had, course he had this big, long box.

NEWMAN:
You had no refrigeration facilities in the Teamster building.

O'BRIEN:
W, w, wee don't have, we have a little bitty uh, uh you probably got one at WXYZ, a little bitty icebox that uh has like four, four ice trays in it. It's in the bottom of a, of a water cooler.

NEWMAN:
Right.

O'BRIEN:
And it just was no place to put that fish. Uh...

NEWMAN:
It was just too big. You cased the refrigerator or you knew that the refrigerator was too big so you didn't go there.

O'BRIEN:
Box was almost uh, the box was almost uh of 4½ foot long.

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

O'BRIEN:
And it just uh that fish was a, a 60 pounds, 70 pounds salmon. It just 40 - 60, it was a, it was a heavy salmon.

NEWMAN:
And you knew Joey Giacalone would be you know amenable to a casual request like this so he was the first name that came to mind.

O'BRIEN:
Well he was as, he was close to, to my office and I just, I phoned him just outta, picked, ya know just said well I'll, I'll give him a ya know call just see uh 9 times outta 10 normally uh I probably wouldn't of got him because he calls on General Motors, Fords and et cetera and just happened to be there all day because he, he was in, ya know, he had quite a few business meetings goin' on uh at his office and uh...

NEWMAN:
And no one at Teamster Headquarters (unintelligible)

O'BRIEN:
Station wagon there and I, that's what I originally intended to use except the dang thing was in the shop and uh...

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

O'BRIEN:
It was just one of those days and there was, it was, it one of those days that just uh and it happened frequently in our building 'cause our guys are in and out and just there was nobody around (unintelligible)

NEWMAN:
Secretary didn't have a car you could borrow?

O'BRIEN:
I wouldn't ask her to use her car. Uh, I, I wouldn't do that.

NEWMAN:
Good question Ann.

ANN:
Okay thank you.

NEWMAN:
Thanks a lot Ann.

ANN:
Alright. Bye bye.

NEWMAN:
12:08 is our WXYZ time. Getting back to Fitz, Chuck.

O'BRIEN:
Sure.

NEWMAN:
Uh here's a, a news item dated March the second, 1975, about uh four or so months before Hoffa's disappearance. Dateline Cincinnati. Teamsters president Frank Fitzsimmons campaigned Saturday for re-election in 1976 and fired salvos at former union president James Hoffa. Fitzsimmons bristled when asked about a national television appearance by Hoffa last week in which Hoffa said the two point two five million member union was now run by quote, people more interested in playing golf than they are in the membership, end of quote. Fitzsimmons told the news conference quote, Hoffa is a bum, a has-been, he's soft in the head, he's a liar and a stool pigeon, he doesn't pose a threat to the Teamsters or any labor organization, end of quote from Fitz four months before Hoffa's disappearance.

O'BRIEN:
Again I, I don't, I don't, I, I don't recall what you're reading, Jerry, I don't recall because you know press uh the press has uh, uh, uh to me has a way a lot of people in the press uh have a way of writing things and blowing things outta proportion. And ya know this question of Fitz playing golf uh versus uh somebody liking, like, likes to hunt uh ya know uh I think it's kind of, it's kinda childish to have uh, uh somebody pick one minute thing out of the air. I mean it was Fitz's pleasure to play golf uh, uh I, I can't see what's so wrong about that uh if uh...

NEWMAN:
Alright but to me Chuckie the, the operative element in this item is not that uh, is not whether or not Fitz plays golf. It's the, it's the vituperation that he is directing at Hoffa, it's the anger he's directing at Hoffa a few months before Hoffa's disappearance.

O'BRIEN:
Well I, I don't know. I, I never heard Fitz talk like that. I don't uh, I, Fitz is not that kind of individual to really, that, I've never heard him speak like that. I mean I don't care who it, who it'd be about. I, and I can't uh, I can't picture Fitz sayin' something like that.

NEWMAN:
Was Jimmy Hoffa planning to make a come-back and try to re-gain the leadership of the Teamsters or not?

O'BRIEN:
I think he thought about it. Uh but I think he knew uh, uh, uh in reality that he wouldn't be, he wasn't going to be able to.

NEWMAN:
In fact he said he was planning to come back and make it.

O'BRIEN:
You know I think the first step that uh we wanna talk about if he was going to come back I think uh the most important place for him to come back uh as, as a uh representative of the International would be at the local level, in fact to Local 299 and, and uh course the uh denominations came and, and went and uh and, and he couldn't run because uh he had the restriction on him so you know uh I just think that uh, that a lotta people, or I say a lotta people, but a few people who for their own whatever they had the back of their mind created a lot of illusion.

NEWMAN:
Go back to the day, back to July 30th. Uh you said on the Stanecki interview that you did go over to the Southfield Athletic Club for about 10 or 12 minutes after, after dropping off the fish and helping Vi Holmes and cleaning out the car and the rest of it.

O'BRIEN:
Right.

NEWMAN:
Correct?

O'BRIEN:
Right.

NEWMAN:
For about 10 or 12 minutes.

O'BRIEN:
Yep. Ten, twelve, fifteen minutes, whatever it...

NEWMAN:
What'd you do there?

O'BRIEN:
I stopped up and picked, I stopped and picked a couple of uh graduation gifts up. Uh my son was graduating from college, my daughter from uh high school, and uh because I was going to leave on uh, on uh Sunday morning very early uh I, ya know wanted to make sure that I got 'em so that uh that I could uh see that they got them.

NEWMAN:
Did you run into Tony Giacalone at the Southfield Athletic Club?

O'BRIEN:
Yeah I did, I did.

NEWMAN:
So I, I was confused because early in the investigation uh as it was recalled uh for me by someone else, uh you said that you spent part of the afternoon at the Southfield Athletic Club with Tony Giacalone and that a reporter that I spoke to said that then you later reversed that story but you haven't reversed the story.

O'BRIEN:
No I, I didn't spend uh, uh an afternoon with him. I, I, I dropped in...

NEWMAN:
Part of it.

O'BRIEN:
And took care of my business and uh he had been there and uh and like normal you'd talk to somebody that uh, that you know and uh I did that and, and then I left and went on my way because I had to get uh, get Joe's car back to him because I wanted to make sure I didn't miss my ride uh, uh which I set up to be able to get back out to uh, uh to an area where I could get pick, be picked up and taken to the peoples' homes that I was staying at.

NEWMAN:
12:11 is our WXYZ time. Talking with Chuckie O'Brien from his home in Florida. We have a line open here. 353-3030 is the number. We'll talk now to Ed. Ed you're on with Chuckie O'Brien.

ED:
Well it was the same way worked it with, with Nixon. People were accusin' him. He let him get off the hook.

O'BRIEN:
Well I don't feel I'm, I, I don't feel like I've done anything wrong I mean uh and, an I, I say that from...

ED:
You should get pardoned.

O'BRIEN:
Well (unintelligible)

ED:
And let it go at that.

O'BRIEN:
I'm, I, I, I'm not lookin' for a pardon. What I'm lookin' for is to be able to come on a program like this and be able to be open and honest with uh with people like yourself or anybody that listens to the program becomes you know so I can come in contact with. I sit back and, and took a, ya know a lacing from the last uh 15 or 16 months and the only reason I've done it because I've had some people that are lawyers and that uh ya know say to you you can't do this, you can't do that but I made my mind up that uh once uh, once I got this one legal problem I had behind me that I was gonna go out and go in there, go on and be offensive to be able to take care of uh the injustice that's been done to myself.

NEWMAN:
12:14 is our WXYZ time. Ed I thank you for calling with us and talking with us. Thanks very much. 12:14 is our WXYZ time. Chuckie I want to review with you. I know you've been over this ground millions of times. I want to get it straight in my own mind and for our listeners too.

O'BRIEN:
Anything I can do to help.

NEWMAN:
Okay. July 30th, 1975, the fateful day. What did you do on the morning of that day? Can you detail your movements for that day sequentially starting with the morning?

O'BRIEN:
Right. Well first of all I was staying with some very, very dear friends of mine uh who live about oh approximately uh

ten minutes from uh the shopping center and from the restaurant. And my normal routine because I had left my car down in West Memphis, Arkansas, at my wife's home, uh I left it there because uh, I had uh no need for it in Detroit for the last two weeks and I wanted it down there to use uh for my assignments within that area because I didn't directly go to Florida, I uh I stayed in uh, in uh and worked outta West Memphis, Arkansas, and uh fact uh fact of the matter is that uh my car was there so what I'd normally do every morning uh this dear friend of mine that uh I was staying with would take me up to the shopping center uh like 7:00, 7:10 in the morning I'd buy a Free Press, he (unintelligible) if the weather was (unintelligible) or it rained uh he'd, we'd wait in the car.

NEWMAN:
This is the Maple - Telegraph shopping center.

O'BRIEN:
Right and I, I...

NEWMAN:
This is the same...

O'BRIEN:
I had uh made arrangements with uh, with uh an associate of miney who worked for a local union who lived out that way that, ya know to pick me up and give me a ride to the office. Uh...

NEWMAN:
What time is this?

O'BRIEN:
Oh he picked me up, his son had to be in school about a quarter to eight in the morning so he'd be there between 7:15, 7:20, right around there, sometimes 7:30. Sometimes he'd run late like sometimes we do and, and he'd, we'd go like hell to get the, the kid to school and that particular morning uh the unfortunate thing, and I've said this a thousand times uh about uh if you could change things in your life, we had originally set a meeting up in Toronto uh vice-president Holmes and myself and they, they at that time we were getting ready to uh merge all the Canadian locals into a conference and they were gonna have their own director and we were workin' on that and at that particular time before my transfer that was part of my area that I'd

ED:
Yeah, Chuckie. This, you got me?

O'BRIEN:
Sir?

NEWMAN:
Yeah we hear you Ed.

O'BRIEN:
I hear you.

ED:
Oh. Did you remember how uh Hoffa got outta, uh outta prison? Didn't uh Richard Nixon pardon him a little bit?

O'BRIEN:
Did Nixon pardon him?

ED:
(Unintelligible) know he shortened his sentence?

O'BRIEN:
No he served 58 months. He came out of, he came out uh it was in 58, he (unintelligible) 58 months of his good uh time and he got a (unintelligible) which is not a pardon.

ED:
Okay. Now if Ford can pardon Nixon you got a president Fitzsimmons. He should pardon you and, and that'd be the end of it. What's good for one is good for the other.

O'BRIEN:
Well first of all uh I appreciate what you're sayin' but uh you know you have to, you have to be accused of something and uh, and uh...

ED:
Well uh, uh, uh...

O'BRIEN:
(Unintelligible) and right now the only people that are accusin' are people who are, who are, who are tryin' to create uh through the media and I'm not particularly sayin' the radio because the radio's always been I think the, one of the fairest medias there've been but uh the newspaper and writers of the newspaper especially have created an unfair indictment on me and, and I, I feel it's an injust indictment uh because it's, it's, it's...

worked in with the On, uh it was part of Ontario. And uh I was, was planning on going to Toronto that day and then because of the, the time-table of me leaving by the end of the weekend and feeling that I had no value at that particular meeting because of my transfer uh which had already been takin' place uh, uh almost um oh maybe a month before the meeting dah maybe - yeah just about a month - uh I just said well there's no value for me to going I said Bob uh I'll just I won't go to the meeting, I'll, I'll go back to my office and finish you know clearin' up what I had to do because I had the movers comin' et cetera.

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

O'BRIEN:
That particular morning he drove me to the shopping center, uh I bought a paper. He had to, he had a early meeting. His, his, his place of business is out in Novi and uh he took off and went to, I said go on, you know go on to your meeting and I said Bobby 'll be by, it was a nice morning and I was sitting there uh if anybody's familiar with the shopping center there's a big uh kind of funny kind of sculpture all kind of things welded to it, I was sitting there just not too far from the Wrigley sign and I was reading the newspaper and, and waiting for my ride. In fact uh an individual who uh owns the car washes that uh I had gotten the car washed in came by, saw me there and blew the horn and it was Jack Milan (phonetic), he said uh you need a ride or what are you waitin' for? And I said well I got a ride comin', I said I don't need one, thanks a lot. And so he, he, he had went down, down Telegraph and uh and shortly after he left uh my ride came, I jumped in the car and we took off and uh and dropped his son off to school and uh I came down to you know came to my office that day.

NEWMAN:
Okay. That was the same Jack Milan (phonetic) who operated the Jack's Car Wash who was asked if you were in fact at the car wash and he couldn't remember?

O'BRIEN:
No. Uh he uh, I was, I didn't go to his particular wash rack where his, where his main office is. The wash rack I went to is on Old Grand River and Farmington Road.

NEWMAN:
I see.

O'BRIEN:
And he did re, he didn't remember but uh again uh an oh, a misled statement in the, uh, by the, by the FBI, and well in fact it what Sheila called in about, uh they said that uh the manager of the uh Jack Car Wash never saw me that day. Well yeah he didn't see me because he wasn't there, the assistant manager was there and unfortunately the manager, who I've known for many years 'cause he'd worked in another, another chain and we have, we have them organized under, under Local 95, uh he passed away, he died and ya know the next thing they had if you recall the paper uh, uh car wash managers dies you know.

NEWMAN:
Yes.

O'BRIEN:
Uh you know. So again there's a mystery that uh he's tied into with, with, with O'Brien because he passed away and...

NEWMAN:
Um hmm.

O'BRIEN:
Which was untrue. But uh Jack Milan (phonetic) uh did tell the FBI uh that he did see me that morning. Uh you know after you know he saw this thing in the paper and that he called the FBI and volunteered and said yeah I saw Chuckie in the morning, in fact I stopped you know uh offered him a ride.

NEWMAN:
Chuckie we've gotta pause for just a second.
(Irrelevant)
We take a call now from Lenny. Lenny youre on WXYZ.

LENNY:
Uh hi Chuck, how are you?

O'BRIEN:
Okay Lenny, how you doin'?

LENNY:
Good. You know I got a message that you were gonna be on this program just uh on the telephone and uh I could always

say that I once appeared on that program uh to uh defend myself and that particular instance I was one of the parties that was mentioned that was to meet Hoffa. Now in my capacity as a labor consultant which is on the opposite side of the fence of yourself, you being with the union, uh all this publicity that you're talkin' about I'm very familiar with. I went through it uh day after day in my home, uh my office. I was harassed tremendously by the news media and I was accused of being one of the individuals that Hoffa was supposed to meet.

NEWMAN:
By the way for our audience this is Lenny Schultz.

LENNY:
Now, now at this given date uh after all the bad publicity that I had and all the great damage it has done to myself, my family and my personal reputation, you don't see my name no more in the media and I can understand what you're going through. Uh the same thing of tryin' to defend yourself and now uh you'll see the media or the newspaper say well Leonard Schultz is cleared or Leonard Schultz had nothin' to do with, but they sure made a helluva (unintelligible) about me being involved without even exonerating me or giving me one little line in the paper saying we now know that Leonard Schultz had nothin' to do with it. And uh I can appreciate uh some of the things that you are saying or you're tryin' to put over and uh it's kinda difficult and it's hard for the public to understand.

O'BRIEN:
Well there's no question about it because uh as I told Jerry Stanecki I hadn't even told Dave Newman that uh ya know you have a family, I, I'm fortunately starting my second family and uh I've got three little boys that are just super little boys and uh, uh, a nice little wife and uh a mother-in-law and a father-in-law who have been in business in, in the particular area for some almost uh 50 years and well known in their community, they're hard workers and God what they've gone through uh is just unreal and uh...

LENNY:
Now you know my sons and you know they're (unintelligible)

O'BRIEN:
That's right and I know what they've gone through and just like this today. I come home and, and, and I, my wife has

not been real well and, and uh somebody mailed her a copy of Argosy magazine which came out yesterday and God there's a great big, one of these wild, horrendous stories again about this terrible tragedy and uh and ya know...

LENNY:
Well lemme say this to you. During the interim of many months here we have received uh, I have received uh four different threatening letters on my family, my life by people writing helter skelter type of letters and I mailed this to the United States Postal uh Service and they sent it to the FBI and lemme tell you this, I have not heard from the FBI, it's already three months and they didn't come out to uh question me whether my life was uh in jeopardy or not. Uh, I, I, I feel like a, a citizen without a country because I have no police protection whatsoever. When someone threatens my life and I report it nobody takes the trouble to come out and investigate. So uh, uh this is what publicity has done to me. And you know very well that I've been accused of uh being uh, uh, uh great uh, great uh reputation of having uh a meeting with the Teamsters and my labor negotiations and you know doggone well and I know doggone well that it isn't so. I go in there and I bargain uh very hard for my clients and I ask no favors from anybody.

O'BRIEN:
Well...

LENNY:
I do the best job that I possibly can.

O'BRIEN:
There's no question about that and uh I know what you've gone through and uh I could only say to you and to anybody you know uh Jimmy Hoffa had one saying uh to people and I can remember we traveled this country up and down uh when he talked about uh the wiretap uh, uh situation and he talked about things that were being introduced by certain congressmen and, and certain senators and you know I can remember the hours he put in and, and uh, and uh, and, and the days that we went he ya know I'd look and say well why, ya know why, why put out like he was putting out and he, he always had this one, one saying he'd always say to people. You know look at the end of the, of a bill and I remember the arguments he got in with a lotta labor guys (unintelligible) especially where uh the one (unintelligible) law made uh, uh a union member uh, uh a legal strikebreaker

and I remember his debates with Jack Kennedy who had been the senator and uh Jack Kennedy said to him and as a matter of record he said well Mr. Hoffa if that happens, if that happens I personally will lead the fight to amend the bill and said senator why lead the fight to amend the bill when you could take the information that someone's been tryin' to relate to this committee relative what you will do to a worker if it's passed. Of course he always said if the people that would, would never wanna come out to the forefront and fight this thing he said when they sign that bill it's not gonna say Teamsters at the end of that bill. It's gonna say all of organized labor and I think what's happened in this country a lotta people, a lotta people just come complacent and they look straight down the road and they don't think that they can effect them. They say well uh who cares about O'Brien. Let 'em wiretape his phone uh I don't do anything wrong. But now they're startin' to find out that, that the ordinary person like O'Brien had been wiretapped and they're mail had been tampered (unintelligible)

LENNY:
No, now I no very well what you're talkin' about because I've been tapped. My home has been tapped, my office has been tapped and not only that because of the vast amount of publicity that I got relative to this case my home was robbed, my wife was uh, uh held at gunpoint uh robbed for 45 minutes in our home. My son walked in during the robbery and almost got killed by the individual that robbed her. When the man was apprehended and charged with the robbery when he was brought into Oakland County uh the judge dismissed the case and said that he wasn't uh put into a showup and his constitutional rights were uh violated. Even though my wife and my son positively identified him on the street 100,000 percent.

O'BRIEN:
Yeah but turn it around though Lenny and, and see what happens to, to individuals like uh, uh myself or anybody else that they want to bring into a lineup, they're, they're bringing in there and changin' (unintelligible)

LENNY:
Right. But here's what happened Chuckie.

O'BRIEN:
Either contempt of court or...

LENNY:
Yeah but what happened was that the prosecutor uh, uh, uh at Oakland County, Brooks Patterson, said we have a perfect

case, there was no need for a showup on the man, the law is very clear on that and then went ahead after the judge did that and they made a motion to dismiss the case without prejudice so the man could never be brought back to trial and this man, this man turned out to be a private detective and then after he left the home and robbed it they found a uh, a uh, uh, a uh, uh secret microphone under my desk in my home. Understand? And uh which was transmitting messages to a uh, a trailer down the street from our house with the uh MINP, uh police which is the Michigan Intelligent Network team. So you can imagine that here now we're suing uh these people because we feel the man who was sent in was a private detective hired by the state police who did all of this here, who robbed my, my wife.

NEWMAN:
Lenny we are right at news time.

LENNY:
Right.

NEWMAN:
Thank you Lenny.

LENNY:
My pleasure.

NEWMAN:
Chuckie cna you stay with us a little while longer?

O'BRIEN:
Got me (unintelligible) I wouldn't run away from it uh...

NEWMAN:
Ah beautiful.

O'BRIEN:
I'm, I, I, I ya know Stanecki's a hard bargainer.

NEWMAN:
I guess he is.

O'BRIEN:
(Unintelligible) I wish he, I wish he didn't negotiate so hard.

NEWMAN:
Yeah. Hang on Chuckie.

O'BRIEN:
Okay.

NEWMAN:
Hang on for just a bit.
(Irrelevant)
That is our number and we are back with Chuckie O'Brien from his home in Florida. Chuckie you're still there I trust.

O'BRIEN:
(Unintelligible)

NEWMAN:
Very good. I, I want to review with you the events of uh July 30th just to make sure I've got 'em right in my mind. Early in the morning about 7:30, quarter to eight, you are waiting for a lift because you are without transportation for reasons you explained. You're waiting at 15 Mile and Telegraph in the Bloomfield Plaza Shopping Center.

O'BRIEN:
Right.

NEWMAN:
Correct. Okay you're waiting for a lift there. This is the same spot from where Jimmy Hoffa will disappear in about eight or so hours. Uh the fellow who owns the car wash drives past you, asks you if you need a lift, you say no you're waiting for a lift, you've got a lift. The lift comes from whom, Holmes?

O'BRIEN:
Yeah from Bob Holmes uh...

NEWMAN:
Bob Holmes from his home in Farmington Hills, past...

O'BRIEN:
No from Bob Holmes, Jr.

NEWMAN:
Bobby Holmes, Jr. okay. Just to make that clear. He lives in the general area.

O'BRIEN:
Yeah. Not too far from there. Ch maybe uh 15 minutes, 20 minutes. He lives uh down uh, uh on Big Beaver Road and you

know one thing I want uh understand too uh David is that this particular place where I was being picked up just didn't happen that day. I'd been usin', using that to be picked up for almost for two weeks from the time that I brought my car down to Arkansas and left it there.

NEWMAN:
Alright. This is the probably the major intersection in the Bloomfield Township area anyway. That's the number one shopping center there, it's a natural spot.

O'BRIEN:
Well plus the fact that my friend where I was staying lives down on Maple Road uh not far from there and it was, it was a lot, it was the easiest place for me to, you know be picked up.

NEWMAN:
It is purely and entirely coincidental that you were waiting at that shopping center, the same shopping cneter from which Jimmy would disappear later in the day.

O'BRIEN:
No question.

NEWMAN:
Okay, 8:00 you, you leave.

O'BRIEN:
Yeah but...

NEWMAN:
You leave the shopping center area.

O'BRIEN:
Yeah.

NEWMAN:
Quarter to eight. What time do you get to work? About 8:30?

O'BRIEN:
Oh sometimes it depends on what happens on the traffic on the expressway.

NEWMAN:
And it was set up for you originally to go to a Teamster meeting in Toronto.

O'BRIEN:
Yeah there was a meeting that went, that, that particular day in Toronto and uh which I ya know uh didn't go because I, I ya know was no need for me to be there.

NEWMAN:
Because you were not gonna be a factor on the scene in the Detroit area.

O'BRIEN:
No way and, and uh, and all I woulda done was just ya know gone there and, and set there and listen to the meeting which uh woulda put me behind another day because I was gonna leave Sunday morning early and uh in fact I was going to leave uh really on Friday but because a friend of mine was betting married on Saturday I, I decided to stay over for the wedding.

NEWMAN:
Okay all of this because you were uh planning on your move to the south you had no uh real reason for being at the Toronto conference so you hung around the office.

O'BRIEN:
Well getting my stuff and my affairs put together because I was going to work out of uh, out of West Memphis, Arkansas, for, for a while because the, as you know we were moving the southern conference from Dallas, Texas, uh over to Florida and uh the offices weren't even ready at that particular time uh...

NEWMAN:
Lemme ask you this Chuckie. Was it promising to be a reasonably busy day or a hang around kinda day?

O'BRIEN:
Uh where, at my office?

NEWMAN:
At your office at Teamster Headquarters on the west side of Detroit.

O'BRIEN:
Well it was gonna be busy for me because uh again I was you know doin' a lotta packin' and uh and ya know getting my affairs put together uh as far as my office there and making arrangements for the movers. I had a meeting with the, ya know, with the mover who was gonna move my stuff uh, uh to Memphis and uh...

NEWMAN:
Office clean-up type chores.

O'BRIEN:
Yeah.

NEWMAN:
And it beckoned to fill up your entire day you would say?

O'BRIEN:
Yeah, in fact I had been doin' it all week uh because I was ya know I'd had been ya know getting myself put together and, and getting my last minute assignments that I had, had to make reports on and so forth getting all that done.

NEWMAN:
Now you're in your office about 8:30 or 9:00 and you've indicated to, to Holmes that you won't be going to Toronto. Correct?

O'BRIEN:
Yeah.

NEWMAN:
Alright. You're there and you're there moreor less by yourself.

O'BRIEN:
No I'm there with uh, well see we - Bill Bufalino's office was there.

NEWMAN:
Yeah.

O'BRIEN:
We shared uh the same headquarters uh...

NEWMAN:
When I say by yourself I mean without direct supervision. Without um active conferences with other Teamster officials.

O'BRIEN:
No not other than anybody that would come upstairs you know come up to my office that was ya know wanted to talk to Bob or somethin' I could assist with uh yeah I was by myself.

NEWMAN:
So you're doing your chores. Your clean-up office type chores...

O'BRIEN:
Right.

NEWMAN:
All morning long.

O'BRIEN:
Right.

NEWMAN:
Somewhere around the noon hour an Express driver arrives with the fish for Bobby Holmes, Sr.

O'BRIEN:
Right.

NEWMAN:
Uh the secretary calls you on the phone doesn't know what to do with it.

O'BRIEN:
Well what she was concerned with is that uh knowing that I was there and uh, uh being able to ya know uh talk to me (unintelligible) what should she do with it you know and then finally I (unintelligible) what was in the box you know the, it uh, it was just a conversation and I said well don't worry about it I said I'll take care of it, I said call and see if anybody's at his home ya know for I didn't have to make the trip out there unnecessarily ya know. If somebody was there then uh, uh we would have done something with the fish but I don't, at thatparticular I didn't, I wasn't uh really concerned about it.

NEWMAN:
Vi Holmes did answer the call by the secretary from the Teamster office.

O'BRIEN:
Right.

NEWMAN:
And said okay bring it up.

O'BRIEN:
That's right.

NEWMAN:
Lemme ask you this. You had a busy day beckoning. You had a lot of stuff to do. Why did you volunteer? There was no one else to do it.

O'BRIEN:
There was nobody around and ya know uh I felt that uh, uh the condition that the fish was in uh I think I asked the driver how long it had been sitting at the airport and he said to best of his knowledge coulda been uh two, three, four hours and knowing it was perishable uh I figured I'll just take the time uh ya know instead of ya know goin' to lunch or something like that I'd just take the and run out there and, and, and drop it off.

NEWMAN:
So even though you had a lotta chores at the office - I don't mean to lay stress on this - but uh I'm tryin' to think...

O'BRIEN:
(Unintelligible) getting finished up at the, at, I was at the tail end of uh, of, of packing and that.

NEWMAN:
You had made more progress with your chores than you had earlier expected and you figured you had an hour or two to do a good deed for a Teamster buddy.

O'BRIEN:
I, I didn't even pla, I didn't even place it on how much time I had to do it because uh you know it just didn't enter my mind. Just, ya know my, my main thought was first of all I'd, I already made arrangements the movers uh I packed uh all that I could packed and, and took care of my personal things and uh, uh it was just a matter of uh if you know me I would do it for you, ya know (unintelligible) a person but if, you know, somebody uh, uh didn't have to be home, needed some assistance that I coulda been assistance I didn't put time to it because really uh all I was waitin' for uh at, at the tail end was to get a ride home uh from a, a pre-arranged uh, uh...

NEWMAN:
Right.

O'BRIEN:
Ya know meeting that I had with the individual giving me a ride home.

NEWMAN:
Okay. So when exactly did you leave Teamster Headquarters with the fish to bring to Vi Holmes at her home in Farmington Hills?

O'BRIEN:
Oh I'd say it was around uh I took off about uh 12:20, 12:30.

NEWMAN:
Alright. Just to back up a bit you called Joey Giacalone on the east side to borrow his car because there was no other car available. There was no car at the Teamster Headquarters for you to use...

O'BRIEN:
Right.

NEWMAN:
To run this, this errand.

O'BRIEN:
That's right.

NEWMAN:
There was no one around.

O'BRIEN:
Wish there, I wish there woulda been. I'd, I had you know prior to uh well after I sent my car down uh for a while I was using an old station wagon that the council had that they used you know for picket lines and different uh ya know different things that they needed it for..

NEWMAN:
Yeah.

O'BRIEN:
And it uh it was quite old, it was three or four years old, and it just broke down and that, and that, that station wagon was in the shop at that particular.

NEWMAN:
Bufalino, you couldn't ask him for his car?

O'BRIEN:
Buf uh, Buf wasn't there. Uh...

NEWMAN:
He was there earlier though wasn't he?

O'BRIEN:
He was there and he, and he had left.

NEWMAN:
He had left. What time did he leave?

O'BRIEN:
I don't re, I don't remember uh Dave, I didn't ya know I just didn't place the time he left.

NEWMAN:
Okay but in any event it was Joey Giacalone's car which was the only one available. He drove over, you drove him back to the east side and from the east side you drove back to the uh northwest suburbs of Detroit, Farmington Hills specifically.

O'BRIEN:
Right.

NEWMAN:
And you were with Vi Holmes for about an hour. You got to her house about what time - about 1:00?

O'BRIEN:
Oh thereabouts.

NEWMAN:
And you stayed with her for about half an hour 'til about 1:30. You uh cleaned the fish, you showed her how to prepare it, you showed her how to make steaks out of it.

O'BRIEN:
Well Dave the fish was already cleaned. It, there was, it was gutted there at the office. All we did was take the head off and then I showed to you know make you know make salmon steaks which she, well ya know as a woman she knew pretty much how to do that but she needed some assistance. She packed the steaks uh ya know to put 'em in her freezer.

NEWMAN:
Yeah.

O'BRIEN:
Uh I, she had the little, the little boy and uh who, who I'm aware of and I, well I picked him up, talked to him and I talked about you know different things. Talked about uh my marriage uh coming up and, and uh ya know et cetera.

NEWMAN:
You were there for about 15 minutes to half an hour.

O'BRIEN:
Oh I'd say 45 minutes I was...

NEWMAN:
Forty-five minutes. You left at bout, what about 1:45 or so?

O'BRIEN:
Thereabouts yeah.

NEWMAN:
And then you went to a car wash.

O'BRIEN:
Yep, got a car wash.

NEWMAN:
Which is in the same general area. You saw that the fish had dirtied the back seat of Joey Giacalone's car. You wanted to get the fish blood stains out.

O'BRIEN:
Yeah.

NEWMAN:
So you were there and you, you instructed them to make a very thorough job of it because you didn't want having borrowed the car to leave stains and so forth and so on.

O'BRIEN:
I put some paper back there in the back and uh it soaked through and uh, and uh, and I needed gas uh the car was almost outta gas and uh, yeah I know if it rained uh couple days before that car was you know like it was dirty so I said well what the heck uh I'll put gas in it, get it washed and get it cleaned for you know, you know the use of the car you know I didn't wanna bring it back to him dirty.

NEWMAN:
Okay. Then, then you went to the Southfield Athletic Club. Correct? For about what length of time?

O'BRIEN:
Maybe 10, 15 minutes tops uh...

NEWMAN:
What time did you get to the Southfield Athletic Club?

O'BRIEN:
Oh it had to be about uh, I'd say around quarter to two, 10 minutes to two, around there.

NEWMAN:
Okay. Uh how, how much time did you spend to the car wash before?

O'BRIEN:
Oh I think it was about 10 minutes, 15 minutes.

NEWMAN:
Okay. And then from the Southfield Athletic Club where you saw Tony Giacalone you uh went to Joey's office on the east side.

O'BRIEN:
Right.

NEWMAN:
He jumped in the car with you preparatory to taking you back to your office.

O'BRIEN:
Right.

NEWMAN:
And you just accomplished the exchange of the uh, of the drivers.

O'BRIEN:
That's all. He just uh, in fact uh he jumped in the car I was drivin' and uh shot right back down Fisher Freeway which is 10 minutes, uh 11 minutes from his office and uh comes up right on Trumbull Avenue and got out, thanked him uh, he went on his way, I went in the office and uh went upstairs and told Annie I said uh ya know every, everything is taken care of. If Bob calls in you know tell him that uh, that you know that I took care of uh bringin' the fish out to Vi and...

NEWMAN:
Right. What time are you back in the office?

O'BRIEN:
Oh I had to back there by about quarter to four.

NEWMAN:
Okay. So that the, the, the transfer of the car and the business with exchanging it with Joey Giacalone took a fair

amount of time because you had been in the Southfield Athletic Club at about 2:00. You spent about 15 minutes there. Took about fif, uh half an hour to bet back to the east side I would say correct?

O'BRIEN:
It took me uh, it took me about uh 30 minutes to get back, around there.

NEWMAN:
Alright so now we're only about to quarter to three or so, 3:15 would put you back at the office.

O'BRIEN:
Well I got back, I got back a little later than that. Uh like I told the FBI I said look uh I'm giving it to you the best of my recollection. I can't pinpoint it to the minute you know. Uh the only thing I knew that uh to start off with is that it was around noontime, uh when the fish got there, earlier maybe uh 11:30 you know somethin' like that, quarter 'til, quarter to 12 uh when she called me you know.

NEWMAN:
Chuckie hangon for just a second. I'm neglecting our, our program log here.

O'BRIEN:
Okay.

NEWMAN:
Hang on for a second.
(Irrelevant)

(Irrelevant)

NEWMAN:
We're back with Chuckie O'Brien from his home in Florida. The thing I guess I was getting at Chuckie is trying to put myself in the position of the investigators, the FBI people and others who have been questioning you about your day July 30, 1975, and I think in a sense I see where their, their jumping in was concern, I see, I think the um the time stretch factor at the end of the day do you know what I mean?

O'BRIEN:
Yeah

NEWMAN:
At the end of your activities, does things start to take longer toward the end of your succession of activities in the northwest suburbs and then back to the east side, do you know what I mean?

O'BRIEN:
Uh huh.

NEWMAN:
This half an hour or so thats vague, is that the problem area as far as the FBI is concerned?

O'BRIEN:
No, I mean it could, you know anybody you know, if you wanted, ya know, I look at it this way Dave, I feel that if you want to put somebody someplace and you want to use some imagination, ahhh to do that, ahhh, theres ahh you know, its very easy I could do, you know, anybody could be put in that position ahh.

NEWMAN:
What I'm thinking of is um Linteau first claimed that his conversation on the phone with Hoffa, where the hell is is Tony Jack and the others ah quote unquote, occurred at 2:30 then he changed it to 3:30 correct?

O'BRIEN:
Ahhh he said so many things I don't know, ya know, I didn't pay attention, too much attention.

NEWMAN:
When is the last time it is determined conclusively that Jimmy Hoffa was speaking to a living human being, do you know that?

O'BRIEN:
Ahhh no.

NEWMAN:
When was the last time you spoke to Josephine Hoffa that day on the phone?

O'BRIEN:
I understand it was in in the afternoon.

NEWMAN:
But the, the time is is not ah

O'BRIEN:
Well this ya know, ya know, let me just say this to you.

NEWMAN:
Sure.

O'BRIEN:
Ahhh lets take ah one thing at a time and and if you take what, what was said, ah, you know, and this is, this is, this is something that you know amazes me where some people you know don't get this full knowledge of it, but heres what, ya know, what I talked about in the 6th Circuit and this is what the Judge said, ah, and again where he went out, and and wrote his decision, ah you know, some judges take time to write some judges just you know use one sentence, but he was so upset when his feelings relative to the going back to using Esposito for example because he did file the Affidavit and he said that ah, that it does appear that a reviewing court may not hold that a magistrates judgement

O'BRIEN (Cont'd.):
has been arbitrarily exercised if theres basis for the magistrate to conclude that the property to be searched will probably produce evidence of the crime described by one seeking the warrant. This is precisely what I find lacking in the Affidavit in the present case. Though the Affidavit recites an abundance of details which form the ah underlying circumstances that lead the FBI Agents to seek the warrant. It appears to me that the substantial basis for this conclusion that the automobile of Joseph Giacalone was involved and disappeared from James R. Hoffa is lacking. The conclusion to the Affidavit is deficient does not result from ah hypothetical rather than common sense approach. Even to, even ah concerning the probability that the unexplained disappearance of James R. Hoffa resulted from the abduction engineered okay?

NEWMAN:
Um hum.

O'BRIEN:
Ahhh there must be some link between the assumed Federal crime and the automobile of Joseph Giacalone. When the Affidavit is read as a whole it is clear that the activities of O'Brien on July the 30th, 1975, are relied upon to supply the, the connecting link; however, I find, I find completely (unintelligible) the conclusion that Charles O'Brien probably used the automobile of Joseph Giacalone to abduct, abduct James R. Hoffa is a possible accord that this did occur but the facts recited in the Affidavit do not supply the probability that is required though O'Brian did borrow the automobile of Giacalone on the day of the disappearance, the Affidavit failed to place O'Brien or the automobile any place where Hoffa was said to be on that day.

NEWMAN:
Um hum.

O'BRIEN:
The Government contends that the magistrate could take judic, judicial notice of the fact that the Farmington, Farmington, Michigan, is about a ten minute drive from the Machus Red, Red Fox Restaurant where Hoffa had gone.

NEWMAN:
Chuckie theres only about four or five minutes left, in other words what the, what the court is saying there is that no matter what time softness is alleged by the FBI, no matter what half an hour period or whatever it is that ah, in which your movements are are vague according to witness substantiation have not connected your movements with Jimmy Hoffa's disappearance in some concrete way.

O'BRIEN:
Very quickly, never, we just said, never or less the Affidavit places O'Brien in Farmington between ah only 12 noon and 1:00 p.m. which was at least one and one half hours before Hoffa disappeared. There is absolutely nothing to indicate that Hoffa and O'Brien were in the same vicinity after 2:30 p.m. when Hoffa was last heard from.

NEWMAN:
Okay so thats, thats where things stand right now.

O'BRIEN:
Thats right.

NEWMAN:
Chuckie hang on for a second.

O'BRIEN:
Sure

(irrelevant)

NEWMAN:
We are back with Chuckie O'Brien, four minutes to one is our WXYZ time, Chuckie your still there correct?

O'BRIEN:
I sure am.

NEWMAN:
Okay, did you have something further that you wanted to say in the ah, in that reconstruction of the afternoon?

O'BRIEN:
No other than, other than, ah you know, I'm just, you know, I'm just again repeating what I, I said from the start from with the interview with Jerry ah, you know, ah, its the question, its the question that I said and I think a young lady called in that was concerned about ya know, myself taking that lie detector test. I really, I really ah did, I, I've never been one to believe in lie detector tests but I've had the opportunity to talk to probably one of the finest ah polygraph people in this country or he's considered that.

NEWMAN:
Um hum.

O'BRIEN:
And, and ah, you know and he told me ah the facts ah relative to a detector test and so forth, and I just felt that I owed ah something to myself and to my family and to the people that I've associated with. and to my organization because you know, if they mention a bribe there gonna mention the Teamsters and ah. ah, I just feel that ah, ah I spent too much time in, in this organization. I never did anything that I can be ashamed of ah, relative to the people, I've had the privilege of serving and ah, you know, if I left the Teamsters tomorrow, if this would stop the tremendous ah publicity the (unintelligible) of the Teamsters Union I guess I would do that ah without, without even hesitation.

NEWMAN:
Chuckie let me ask you a couple of basic questions in the, in the two minutes which are left. If I heard you correctly in the 60 Minutes interview with Safer and with Jerry Stanecki you say that its absurd on the face of it that Organized Crime and/or the Teamsters would have anything to do with the Teamsters, would have anything to do with the Hoffa disappearance, you don't believe it and you think its an outlandish conclusing, correct?

O'BRIEN:
I've, I, 100 percent.

NEWMAN:
Well why, why is it so absurd? Why is all of that so absurd? We have remarks on the public record of great anger on the part of Fitz. We have, I'll tell ya, you know I was a Teamster once myself, ah many years ago in New York and I saw an incident in ah, in a railway express terminal in New Jersey, in which a Teamster who was opposing the election of Tony Pro of Local 560 was putting up some wall posters and he had the living hell beaten out of him in front of my very eyes.

O'BRIEN:
Well I

NEWMAN:
By Tony Pro's guys so I, I made a conclusion that in my mind ah Chuckie

O'BRIEN:
Well I, I saw people on television that ah, that went, went to ah President elect Carters home town in Plains, Georgia, ah with signs for Ford and they, they threw ice cream at the cars they

NEWMAN:
Yeah well the only conclusion I'm, I'm trying to make or the only point I'm trying to make Chuckie is that Tony Pro plays rough, everybody knows that.

O'BRIEN:
Oh well I think, I think thats blown out of proportion.

NEWMAN:
You think its blown out of proportion?

O'BRIEN:
I certainly do, I, I, ya know, its just ah, its its got to the point that ah it, it really, I, I, I feel that this, that, that if you watch a James Bond movie you couldn't, you couldn't get anymore ah wilder stories than what, whats starting to come out than has been coming out. I can remember when thats all Sully use to talk about was Hoffa, Hoffa was this, Hoffa was that, you know, it just was unreal.

NEWMAN:
Chuckie we are out of time and you are to be commended for spending as much time as you did with us tonight and I'm sincerely greatful to you.

O'BRIEN:
I, David I wanna, I wanna just say thank you to you and ah, you know, I, I grew up in Detroit, and ah, and, and ya know, I just, I feel I owe something to the community ah because I've been silent and I've taken ah, I've taken a beating on it and I, and I said to Jerry Stanecki ah you know, Polish power is a great thing, their, their great people.

NEWMAN:
Well I'll

O'BRIEN:
And ah, and I just want to thank you and, and for, to give me this opportunity.

NEWMAN:
Well it, it was a pleasure to talk with you Chuckie, thank you very much.

O'BRIEN:
Thank you very much.

NEWMAN:
Chuckie O'Brien from his home in Florida.

(Irrelevant)

[redacted]

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REC-39 EX 104 1- 6005-1318

[redacted]

MAR 10 1977

[redacted]

non public source material

57 MAR 16 1977

[redacted]

RE ANTHONY GIACALONE, AKA., TONY:

IN NEWSPAPER ARTICLE APPEARING IN THE "DETROIT FREE PRESS", A DAILY DETROIT NEWSPAPER, IT WAS REPORTED THAT GIACALONE, ALONG WITH FOUR OTHER REPUTED MAFIA MEMBERS, HAD BEEN SUBPOENAED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS DURING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28, 1977, CONCERNING THE MURDER OF JOHN ROSELLI, A REPUTED MAFIA MEMBER WHO HAD BEEN LIVING IN MIAMI, FLORIDA. ROSELLI'S BODY WAS FOUND IN AN OIL DRUM IN BISCAYNE BAY NEAR DOWNTOWN MIAMI, AUGUST, 1976. [redacted]

non public source material

[redacted]

non-public source

RE FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS:

ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE REQUESTED FITZSIMMONS AND OTHERS TO RESIGN AS TRUSTEES OF THE TEAMSTERS 1.4 BILLION DOLLAR CENTRAL STATES PENSION FUND. REPORTEDLY, THE LABOR DEPARTMENT WAS GOING TO SEEK VOLUNTARY ACTION ON FITZSIMMONS WITHDRAWAL, HOWEVER, INTENDED

PAGE FOUR, DE 79-359, E F TO

TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION IF FITZSIMMONS DID NOT VOLUNTARILY AGREE TO RESIGN. NO INFORMATION GIVEN AS TO THE LENGTH OF TIME FITZSIMMONS WOULD HAVE TO MAKE HIS DECISION.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

[redacted]

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[redacted]

RE FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS (FEF):

AS REPORTED IN THE NEWS MEDIA DURING WEEK OF MARCH 14, 1977, FEF RESIGNED ALONG WITH THREE OTHER TRUSTEES FROM THE TEAMSTERS CENTRAL STATES PENSION FUND. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS, IT APPEARS SOME TYPE OF "DEAL" WAS MADE IN WHICH FEF WOULD AGREE TO RESIGN IN EXCHANGE FOR NOT BEING PROSECUTED ON VIOLATIONS CONCERNING THE FUND.

REC 57 7-6105-2355

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[redacted]

non public source material

RE ANTHONY "TONY PRO" PROVENZANO:

IN A VERY SHORT ARTICLE APPEARING THE THE "DETROIT FREE PRESS", MARCH 22, 1977, IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE DISMISSAL OF A FEDERAL KIDNAPPING-MURDER CONSPIRACY CASE AGAINST PROVENZANO AND HIS UNION ASSOCIATES, WAS UPHELD BY A FEDERAL APPEALS COURT. THESE CHARGES AGAINST PROVENZANO HAD BEEN DISMISSED IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT

REC-126 9 — 6 [illegible] 236

MAR 30 1977

OF NEW YORK ON OCTOBER 29, 1976, ON GROUNDS THAT THE FIVE YEAR STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HAD RUN OUT. A THREE JUDGE COURT OF APPEALS PANEL UPHELD JUDGE CHARLES STEWART, JR'S DISMISSAL.

PROVENZANO, SALVATORE BRIGUGLIO AND OTHERS, HOWEVER, MUST STILL STAND MURDER CHARGES IN THE STATE COURT OF NEW YORK CITY. NO DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR THAT TRIAL.

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57 MAY 13 1977

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non-public case material

ON APRIL 11, 1977, AN ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE SAN ANTONIO LIGHT NEWSPAPER, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, ENTITLED "FBI TO INVESTIGATE 20 MOB MURDERS". THIS ARTICLE WHICH IS A NEW YORK (UPI)

RELEASE REPORTED THE FBI HAS BEGUN A WIDE INQUIRY INTO 20 MURDERS COMMITTED DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS BY UNDERWORLD FIGURES. THE VICTIMS WERE FREQUENTLY PERSONS WHO WERE SERVING AS FBI INFORMANTS OR WHO WERE POTENTIAL PROSECUTION WITNESSES. THE SLAIN MEN, ALL OF WHOM WERE KILLED BY .22 CALIBER AUTOMATIC PISTOLS INCLUDED SAM GIANCANA THE FORMER CHICAGO BOSS.

[redacted]

BT

non-public source material

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Hoffa Inquiry Has Collapsed, U.S. Aides Say

By JO THOMAS
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 7—The inquiry into the disappearance of James R. Hoffa, former president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, has collapsed, Federal officials close to the case said today. The investigation has cost the Federal Bureau of Investigation more than $1 million over the last two years.

Mr. Hoffa's son, James P. Hoffa, a Detroit lawyer, said today that he was "disturbed" and "disappointed that more isn't being done by the F.B.I. or the Justice Department."

"They must have an idea how to move this case along," he said.

Although a Justice Department spokesman said that the search for Mr. Hoffa, who is believed to have been the victim of an underworld execution, still had priority and was "by no means" closed, United States Attorney Philip Van Dam said in Detroit: "There's nothing left to do. I share Mr. Hoffa's disappointment."

The number of agents working on the case has dwindled to a handful, and most are also assigned to other cases. Agents on the case said they had backtracked, hoping they had overlooked something.

Continued From Page A1

"We're seeking new avenues, taking a broader look at possibilities, at possible causes and results, at whatever we can find," said Robert Kent, special agent in charge of the Detroit F.B.I. office.

"I don't feel as optimistic as I did last year," Mr. Van Dam conceded. "I said last year I hoped we'd know by this time what happened. We don't."

The investigation will be two years old on July 30. In the afternoon of that day in 1975, Mr. Hoffa vanished from the parking lot of the Machus Red Fox Restaurant in Bloomfield Township outside Detroit.

Four days later, the Director of the F.B.I., Clarence M. Kelley, said extortion demands had been received and that the bureau had entered the investigation, which it had monitored unofficially from the outset.

The inquiry grew into the largest investigation ever conducted by the bureau involving someone believed to have died, a spokesman said. The search for Patricia Hearst was bigger and more expensive, costing about $9 million, the spokesman said. "But we know she was alive," Mr. Hoffa, he said, was presumed dead.

A Federal grand jury in Detroit began an investigation on Sept 2, 1975, and eventually called more than 80 witnesses, including Mr. Hoffa's associates, teamsters' officials and many of the leading figures in the Detroit underworld.

Reward Still Being Offered

Hundreds of tips flowed in as offers of a reward for information leading to the arrest of Mr. Hoffa's abductors grew to $300,000. The reward is still being offered, but the number of tips, according to the younger Hoffa, has dwindled to "maybe one a month."

Members of the Hoffa family have said that the former teamster president intended to meet Anthony Giacalone, a reputed Detroit underworld figure, on the day he disappeared. Mr. Giacalone, they said, had offered to arrange a meeting between Mr. Hoffa and Anthony Provenzano, secretary-treasurer of teamster Local 560 in Union City, N.J., a former ally who later turned against Mr. Hoffa.

Witnesses who saw Mr. Hoffa on the day he vanished recalled that he had said he intended to meet "Tony G.," "Tony P." and one other man, but they were able to recall this only under hypnosis.

Minutes before he disappeared, Mr. Hoffa telephoned his wife, Josephine, to ask, "Where the hell is Giacalone?" family members said.

Mr. Provenzano and Mr. Giacalone have both denied being at the restaurant that day.

Later, investigators said that tracking dogs had detected Mr. Hoffa's scent in the trunk and back seat of a 1975 maroon Mercury that was driven that day by Charles L. O'Brien, a teamster official who has referred to himself as Mr. Hoffa's foster son. The car, owned by Mr. Giacalone's son, Joseph, remains in Federal custody.

Both Giacalones, Mr. Provenzano, and Mr. O'Brien were called to testify before the Federal grand jury, which met almost daily until early November 1975. At that time, Ralph Guy, then United States Attorney, said the grand jury had called all the witnesses on its list and was "just hoping for a good lead."

The case revived a month later, however, when Federal prosecutors said that an informant had named three New Jersey men, all reported to be associates of Mr. Provenzano, as Mr. Hoffa's killers.

Thomas Andretta and two brothers, Salvatore and Gabriel Briguglio, named by the informant were ordered by a Federal judge to appear in a police lineup in Pontiac, Mich., for viewing by two purported witnesses to the Hoffa abduction.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times A1
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date JUL 8 1977

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56 SEP 3 1977

FBI/DOJ

D-60052-2450X

2 Witnesses View Lineup

One witness, a businessman, could not identify any of the three as having been with Mr. Hoffa in the maroon car he saw that day. The other witness, a woman, identified one of the men as a person she saw with Mr. Hoffa outside the restaurant, but she reportedly had seen his picture in a newspaper before she saw the lineup raising questions about her identification of the suspect.

Mr. Andretta and the two Briguglio brothers have said they were playing cards in the Local 560 union hall on the day Mr. Hoffa disappeared.

The grand jury subsequently called and gave immunity from prosecution to three other witnesses associated with Local 560. In July 1976, it also gave immunity to Joseph Giacalone, who testified for 90 minutes.

At the time, Mr. Van Dam said that progress was "excellent," and he predicted that indictments would eventually be returned.

GIVING BEGETS JOY

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FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

A Book by Hoffa Accuses Fitzsimmons of Mob Link

By PETER KIHSS

James R. Hoffa, who has been missing since July 30, has charged Frank E. Fitzsimmons, his successor as president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, with "selling out to mobsters" and "making vast loans from the billion-dollar teamster pension fund to known mobsters."

Mr. Hoffa's charges were made known yesterday by his son, James P. Hoffa, and Sol Stein, president of Stein & Day, in presenting a book that they said the elder Mr. Hoffa was working on when he disappeared. Entitled "Hoffa: The Real Story, by James R. Hoffa," it was written "as told to" Oscar Fraley, a sports writer and author of other books.

At a news conference at the Overseas Press Club in the Biltmore Hotel, Mr. Hoffa's son, wearing a black mourning tie with his light gray suit, said that he believed his father had been murdered by a "ruthless conspiracy."

Epilogue Is Quoted

The son, a lawyer, declined at the news conference to suggest motives or persons involved, but in an epilogue in the book, written by Mr. Fraley, he was quoted as follows:

"The only motive big enough had to come out of the union. The powers that be had too much to lose if Dad won in 1976 and then found out from the books what they'd been doing with the pension-fund money."

The elder Mr. Hoffa had planned to run again for the union presidency.

In Washington, Mr. Fitzsimmons's office said that neither he nor his public relations spokesman would be available yesterday, when a request was made for comment.

Mr. Hoffa's accusations against the man he picked as his successor in 1971, while Mr. Hoffa was serving a Federal prison term for attempted jury fixing and pension fraud before President Nixon commuted his sentence that December, were as follows:

"I charge Fitzsimmons with political influence peddling and conspiring with John Dean and Charles Colson of President Richard Nixon's 'Watergate staff' to prevent me from regaining my office.

"I charge him with selling out to mobsters and letting known racketeers into the teamsters.

"I charge him with blackjacking union officials into line by giving $7-million in annual organizing funds only to people who promise to support him.

Sent to 'Siberia'

"I charge him with sending Hoffa supporters among the teamster officials to 'Siberia' so they couldn't influence delegates to the 1976 convention.

"I charge him with awarding a $1.3-million teamster 'public relations' program in 1973 to two men with criminal records.

"I charge him with permitting underworld establishment of a union insurance scheme which in one year was a rip-off to the tune of $1,185,000 in the New York area alone and in which his own son, Don, participated on a national level.

"I charge him with making vast loans from the billion-dollar teamster pension fund to known mobsters.

"I charge him with winning teamster support by giving regional union officials powers that belong to the international executive board.

Hoffa Loans Recalled

"I charge him with stripping my wife and my son of union posts as a further means of undermining my influence."

Mr. Hoffa asserted "the Teamsters' Central States, Southeast and Southwest Area Pension Fund has become the biggest mob target" with em-

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

— N.Y. Times

— 8819

Date: 9/12/75

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☐ Being Investigated

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ployers of 500,000 teamsters contributing more than $200-million a year.

He wrote that "during my years as general president, I made loans to what the Government labeled suspicious characters, if not charging them with being outright mobsters." But he asserted "we had damned few defaults," and added, "which is more than can be said now."

While he was in Lewisburg penitentiary, he said, he refused to help Anthony Provenzano, who had headed a Hoboken local, to keep a union pension threatened because of an extortion conviction. Since then, he said, Mr. Provenzano has been involved in Florida building projects that have had more than $5-million in pension loans.

Regarding his insurance charge, Mr. Hoffa cited Louis Ostrer, who received a five-year suspended sentence after pleading guilty in 1969 to "swindling a Canadian insurance company out of $338,000."

He said that Mr. Ostrer sold to New York Teamster Local 295, "dominated by labor racketeer Harry Davidoff," a plan requiring truck employers to pay $40 a week for each employe to buy individual insurance policies for them and to build a severance pay fund.

Mr. Hoffa said that the State Insurance Department charged that the payments had been "siphoned off by outrageous commissions and administration fees," and that the insurance should have cost only $52,546, instead of $1,238,274.

He said that Mr. Ostrer had hired Mr. Fitzsimmons's son Don, who had been "peddling vending machines for a hoodlum-owned company," and the latter brought more than 60 teamster locals in seven states into the plan.

Statement by Lawyer

Julius November, a lawyer for Mr. Ostrer, said yesterday that challenges in State Supreme Court and the Appellate Division had upset the regulation involved in the State Insurance Department's citation, which was still under discussion with the department.

He said that Mr. Ostrer had repaid the money in the Canadian case; that a Federal Court conviction against Mr. Ostrer mentioned by Mr. Hoffa was awaiting decision on a motion for dismissal or new trial, and that a New York County indictment against Mr. Ostrer also cited in the book had been withdrawn on a motion by the prosecution.

Mr. Hoffa charged that Mr. Colson, as President Nixon's special counsel, had conspired with Mr. Fitzsimmons to impose a ban on Mr. Hoffa's union activities until 1980 in return for projected yearly teamster legal fees of $100,000. Mr. Colson has called such charges "false and malicious."

When Mr. Nixon commuted Mr. Hoffa's sentence, he imposed the condition that Mr. Hoffa stay out of union activities until 1980.

In the book's epilogue, Mr. Fraley says that Mr. Hoffa charged that his so-called "foster son," Charles O'Brien, had become a "turncoat," lining up with Mr. Fitzsimmons, and that the "foster son" description had been "fabricated" so Mr. O'Brien could visit Mr. Hoffa in the penitentiary.

Also participating in the news conference was C. Edward Lawrenson, executive director of the National Association for Justice, a prison reform group in Washington that is to get all of Mr. Hoffa's earnings from the book. Publication had originally been scheduled for next February, but was advanced. The first printing consists of 50,000 copies.

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Does Missing Tape Have Hoffa Clues?

NEW YORK — The victim of a recent gangland-style murder told federal agents he had a tape-recorded account of the killing of Teamster leader Jimmy Hoffa, Time magazine says.

The magazine yesterday said attorney Gino Gallina "informed the feds that he had hidden a tape-recorded account of the killing that included the voices of mobsters who had a hand in it."

Gallina reportedly said the body of Hoffa, who has been missing for two years, could be found from information on the tape.

Time said federal investigators have looked for the tape since the slaying of Gallina in New York on Nov. 5.

The Washington Post _____
Washington Star-News A-5
Daily News (New York) _____
The New York Times _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
The Los Angeles Times _____

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A REVIEW OF THE CHICAGO INDICES REFLECTS A NEWSPAPER ARTICLE APPEARING IN THE CHICAGO SUNDAY TRIBUNE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, DATED JANUARY 7, 1973, PAGE 42, SECTION 1, ENTITLED, "CONVICTED UNION CONSULTANT RETAINS STATE LICENSE". THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF ARTICLE STATES:

"DORFMAN'S RECENT CONVICTION STILL HAS NOT DAMPENED THE ENTHUSIASM OF OTHER TEAMSTER OFFICIALS TOWARDS HIM. ON FRIDAY

NIGHT, (JANUARY 5, 1973) BETWEEN 250-300 LABOR LEADERS GATHERED AT THE CONTINENTAL PLAZA TO FETE DORFMAN ON HIS 50TH BIRTHDAY. CO-CHAIRMEN FOR THE LAVISH AFFAIR INCLUDED FRANK FITZSIMMONS TEAMSTER PRESIDENT; DON PETERS, TRUSTEE OF THE PENSION FUND AND SOL SCHWARTZ".

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ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 14, 1977, DETROIT AREA RADIO STATIONS CARRIED A NEWS STORY WHICH THEY CLAIMED WAS RELEASED TO THE MEDIA BY TIME MAGAZINE ON THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 13, 1977, AT NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK. THE STORY ALLEGES THAT GINO GALLINA, FORMER ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY IN NEW YORK CITY, WAS SHOT DOWN APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK AGO IN THE GREENWICH VILLAGE AREA,

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OF NEW YORK CITY AND DIED APPROXIMATELY ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS LATER AFTER SOSTAINING SEVEN GUN SHOT WOUNDS. THE STORY FURTHER ALLEGES THAT DURING THE ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS BETWEEN THE TIME GALLINA WAS SHOT AND THE TIME HE DIED, HE ALLEGEDLY TOLD FEDERAL INVESTIGATORS OF A TAPE RECORDING WHICH OUTLINED THE CIRCUMSTANCES BEHIND THE DEATH OF JAMES R. HOFFA, THE IDENTITIES OF THE FIVE INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH AND THE LOCATION OF THE BODY. THE STORY ALSO ALLEGES THAT SUBSEQUENT TO GALLINA'S DEATH, FEDERAL INVESTIGATORS HAVE SEARCHED A SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX, EXACTHGOCATION UNKNOWN, WHICH WAS RENTED BY GALLINA IN AN ATTEMPT TO FIND THE TAPE WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

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IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT ON JULY 18, 1978, A LOCAL DETROIT RADIO STATION AIRED A STORY ABOUT HAIRS BELONGING TO HOFFA BEING FOUND IN JOEY GIACALONE'S CAR ALONG WITH BLOOD OF THE SAME TYPE AS HOFFA'S. [redacted]

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Jimmy Hoffa: A Life Lived on Borrowed Time

Reviewed by
Joseph Volz

The reviewer is the Justice Department correspondent for the Washington bureau of the New York Daily News.

Jimmy Hoffa's gangland execution was inevitable, according to Lester Velie. Hoffa had made a desperate bargain with the Mafia decades before. He would be the mob's man in the burgeoning Teamsters.

Velie, who has been watching and writing about Hoffa for Reader's Digest over the last 20 years, even lets us in on the place where Hoffa made his pact with the devil.It was sometime in the 1930s in Detroit where Hoffa, a young street tough, had so antagonized the leading mafiosi that he was brought before a mob "court" and sentenced to death.

"Jim Hoffa convinced his Mafia judges that he was worth more to them alive than dead," reports Velie. "For, alive, he could put union power at their disposal."

In these days of non-fiction fiction and fictionalized non-fiction it is difficult to know when a larger-than-life tale slips into the narrative undetected. But whether Hoffa received a suspended sentence from the Cosa Nostra or not, there is little question among Hoffa analysts that he did have a long-running love affair with the mob. And federal investigators believe, he died at mob hands when he sought to defy his old partners.

"Desperate Bargain" is a fitting obit but far from the definitive study that, no doubt, will be written by a professorial type from a labor institute. Velie is not a scholar, but a storyteller—witness his version of what happened when Hoffa went out to lunch that July summer two years ago and disappeared. Hoffa thought he would be sitting down with reported Detroit organized crime leader Tony Jack Giacalone and out-of-town Teamsters' strongman and convicted extortionist Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano of Union City, N.J.

Velie believes the prevailing Justice Department wisdom that New Jersey mobsters kidnapped Hoffa and killed him, and advances the unproven thesis that Giacalone set up Hoffa's farewell party. There have been no indictments and none are likely because of conflicting testimony on the part of eye witnesses and memory lapses on the part of Mafia suspects.

Velie argues that Hoffa lost his role as "supermob's biggest figure" when

Hoffa

The Washington Post B-6
Washington Star-News ____
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The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

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Book World

DESPERATE BARGAIN: Why Jimmy Hoffa Had to Die. By Lester Velie

(Reader's Digest Press. 258 pp. $10)

he lost the Teamsters presidency while in prison. He was of no further use to the mob and "lived on borrowed time from the moment he left prison. Instead of a conduit to the upper world, he had become a menace. He could blow the whistle."

The whole story of James Riddle Hoffa? Not quite. It is a good police reporter's account, but offers few insights into Hoffa himself—perhaps the most fascinating and complex man in the history of the union movement. We see such Hoffa footprints as the sweetheart contracts with truckers, rampant nepotism and huge loans from pension funds to cronies.

But we don't know why Hoffa trampled over so many people. Perhaps this frail book of 258 pages does not have room for Hoffa's childhood, his upbringing, his relationships with others. But without that, he comes off as a cardboard man—a composite of newspaper clippings and court transcripts.

To be sure there is an occasional glimpse of Hoffa—the uneducated father, for example, keeping his son, an all-state football tackle, off the college football team because it would interfere with his education. Or the strident Hoffa observing: "I may have my faults, but being wrong ain't one of them."

Velie seems to have a grudging admiration for Hoffa. Here is a man who could even talk his moral enemies, the cops, into joining the Teamsters. A man so beloved by the rank-and-file that they were calling in from all over the day he went to prison, offering to shut down the country.

It almost seems that Velie might be trying to give us the impression that with Hoffa's brains and drive he could have been a captain of industry if only he was not corrupted in the dangerous streets of Depression Detroit.

One also must resist the temptation to conclude that Hoffa was prepping for sainthood when he prepared to take on his timid successor-turned-tiger, Frank Fitzsimmons, as well as the mob to win back the Teamsters. Jimmy the reformer. Isn't it pretty to think so?

UP-031
(HOFFA)
DETROIT (UPI) - FBI SEROLOGY EXPERTS REPORTEDLY FOUND A TINY BIT OF HUMAN BLOOD IN THE CAR THAT FEDERAL AUTHORITIES BELIEVE WAS USED TO ABDUCT MISSING FORMER TEAMSTERS BOSS JAMES HOFFA.
RADIO STATION WJR QUOTING SOURCES SAID YESTERDAY TECHNICIANS FOUND THE MICROSCOPIC PARTICLE OF BLOOD ON A STRAND OF HAIR THAT WAS COMPARED TO SAMPLES TAKEN FROM HOFFA'S BELONGINGS.
FOR NEARLY THREE YEARS, IT WAS THOUGHT AGENTS FOUND ONLY TRACES O FISH BLOOD IN THE CAR, USED TO DELIVER A 40-POUND SALMON THE DAY HOFFA VANISHED FROM THE PARKING LOT OF A SUBURBAN RESTAURANT IN JULY 1975.
THE CAR NOW IS OWNED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BUT FORMERLY WAS THE PROPERTY OF JOSEPH GIACALONE, SON OF REPUTED MAFIA FIGURE ANTHON GIACALONE. THE ELDER GIACALONE ONCE WAS IDENTIFIED AS A SUSPECT IN THE HOFFA CASE BUT NEVER CHARGED.
ON THE DAY HOFFA VANISHED, THE CAR HAD BEEN DRIVEN BY CHARLES "CHUCKIE" O'BRIEN, A YOUNG HOFFA ASSOCIATE WHO DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS "FOSTER SON" OF THE FORMER TEAMSTERS LEADER.
UPI 07-18 11:08 AED

ENCLOSURE

The Law

by Steven Brill

Muscled by the FBI

When you've got what they want, you need all the friends you can get

ESQUIRE MAGAZINE
DATED 10/10/78

In the two years that I worked on what is generally known as an "investigative" book about the Teamsters union, I was asked dozens of times whether any threats had been made against me.

The answer, until last May, had always been that except for some loose talk among lower-echelon mob sources, I hadn't gotten any specific threats. In May that changed. The first real threat didn't come from the mob. It was from the people we pay to protect us from mobsters—the FBI.

On Thursday, April 27, at about eight-thirty in the morning, I took a call at the Esquire office from Special Agent Brevard of the FBI. "We'd like to talk to you about James Hoffa," he said, "and information you may have about the Hoffa case."

I told him that I really wouldn't have anything to say until I could consult with my lawyer.

Brevard persisted. "Can't we just come over to talk? I promise it won't take long. And it may be urgent. Please."

I said okay. I tried to reach Floyd Abrams, a top First Amendment lawyer who had been advising me on libel questions related to the book. He wasn't in his office yet but had already left his apartment.

A half hour later, two agents, Brevard and another man named Billowitz, sat around my desk. Their dress and self-conscious hushed tones drew stares from the few curious early birds already in place at nearby desks in the city-roomlike editorial offices.

"We have reliable information," Brevard began, as I took notes, "that you have three items that may be of interest to us. First, we are told that you have in your possession some memos and other documents that belong to the FBI or the Justice Department, having to do with the Hoffa case. If this is true, then a crime has been committed because these documents are not supposed to be leaked to members of the public." He paused. I said nothing.

"Second," he continued, "we are told



that you have a draft of a sealed indictment that has been prepared by the Justice Department charging certain individuals with the murder of James Hoffa." He paused again. I was tempted to ask him to repeat that. I knew from reliable government sources that no such indictment existed, and if *I* knew it didn't exist, then Brevard also had to know. Still, I said nothing.

"Third, we have been told that you have in your possession a tape-recorded confession from someone who was involved in the Hoffa murder." He stopped, waiting for a response.

"As I told you," I began, "I haven't consulted with my lawyer. So I'm just not going to comment at all on anything you've said."

I could have easily told them that I didn't have any kind of tape-recorded confession or sealed indictment. But to do that would have, by elimination, been admitting that I had the first item—government documents—which I did.

"Well, you will admit that you've talked to ——— [a federal official in Detroit] won't you?" Brevard asked.

"I'm just not going to comment at all on anything."

Finally, Billowitz, who had remained quiet, stood up. "Listen, will you do us a favor? Get in touch with your lawyer as soon as you can, and then give us a call and tell us what you're gonna do. You see, danger if people on the street think you have some of these materials like a taped confession. We want to protect you."

I thanked them, we shook hands, and they left. Did some "people on the street" really think I was walking around with a taped confession in the Hoffa case or that I was claiming to have one?

When I reached Abrams, he said he would be out of town until the end of the week. So we'd get together the next Friday or Saturday and discuss how we'd respond to the FBI. I told Abrams that I was convinced the FBI was simply trying to find out what was in the book so they wouldn't be caught by surprise if I had some information they didn't have.

Monday afternoon, while working at home on a column, I called into the office for messages. One was from Special Agent Billowitz. When I dialed his number, as an afterthought, I reached into my desk for a gadget that allows me to record phone calls. In the past, I've only used it when I've told the other person beforehand, such as when I'm conducting on-the-record interviews. This time, I didn't tell Billowitz. That's not illegal, since one of the parties to the conversation—me—is consenting to the recording.

Billowitz asked if I had had a chance to discuss things with my lawyer. I told him I hadn't, then asked him to go over exactly what it was the FBI wanted to know.

He repeated the three items. I told him I still couldn't comment and that I didn't expect to talk to my lawyer until the end of the week and we hoped to be back to him by then or the beginning of the next week at the latest. Then he got tough.

"Let me just say what basically we're gonna have to do," he began. "I was hoping that we'd hear from you by Friday. . . . We have to resolve this thing one way or the other. . . . We can't just wait another week and then, who knows, another week. . . . If it is true, we've got to do something about it. . . . So what we're gonna have to do is verify it in another manner."

"Which means what?" I asked. Now came the threat.

"All I can tell you is we will verify the

Contributing editor Steven Brill writes a regular column on law and lawyers. His new book, The Teamsters, *was published*

—2197

talking to people that you have dealt in getting that information, we're gonna do it. And I'm not gonna mention a lot of names on the phone. . . ."

"I just don't know who you could mean."

"Well, I can give you initials of one person." Billowitz answered—at which point he provided the unmistakable initials of a gangster who had been involved in the Hoffa murder.

Nixon was right. Tapes do reveal warts and all. All signs of the Yale Law-trained reporter now vanished. I giggled. I stuttered. I was incoherent. After the first giggle, I told Billowitz that "we definitely should have a talk."

He sensed that he had scored and decided to drive it home: "That's gonna be the first person we're gonna talk to. . . . And we don't want to talk to him because I don't know what it's gonna do to you or your position. I really don't."

I spent the last five minutes of the conversation trying to buy time. It ended with him agreeing not to contact his gangster friend until I called him by eight the next morning.

The FBI's asking an underworld enforcer involved in the murder what he knew about the taped confession I had in the Hoffa case would only tip him off, wrongly, that I had such a confession. It was clear, as Billowitz had put it, what that could do to me and my position. For the first time since starting the book, I was genuinely scared. I even regretted having done the book. Perhaps Billowitz was going to talk to this guy this afternoon anyway, or, maybe, even if I told him the next morning what I had or didn't have, he'd talk to him anyway.

The agent was going to talk to the mob about me, "and I don't know what it's gonna do to you or your position."

Abrams was unreachable, teaching a seminar at Yale Law School. I decided not to wait to talk to him. I dialed Robert Fiske Jr., the United States attorney for the southern district of New York. As the local federal prosecutor, Fiske is the Justice Department's man in New York; and the FBI, in theory at least, is an arm of the Justice Department. I would be able to get him on the phone since I knew him from other stories I had written.

I told Fiske about the conversation. (This call was *not* taped; I'm working from memory and some scant notes here.) He expressed some initial hesitation about wanting to interfere in FBI investigative activities. He also said he doubted that the FBI would threaten me, that I must have misunderstood. "Bob," I said, "you don't have to believe me or take my interpretation. I taped the conversation." I also explained that Floyd Abrams would be acting as my lawyer (a point that seemed to register nearly as well as the existence of the tape) and that all I wanted him to do until he could discuss all this with Abrams was to call Billowitz's supervisor and make sure that the Hoffa case suspect or anyone else "on the streets" wasn't asked any questions about what I had or didn't have. He assured me he'd make the call.

Abrams called from New Haven. Although he was leaving for California the next morning and wouldn't be back until Friday, when I told him what had happened, he said he'd meet me at about nine that night when he got off the train from New Haven. By nine-thirty, we had commandeered a conference room in the library of the Yale Club, across from Grand Central Station. I played my tape.

Abrams, in shirt-sleeves, paced the floor. When he heard the "what this will do to you and your position" line and the "that's the first person we're gonna talk to" promise, he looked up, shook his head, and muttered, "That's hard to believe."

We agreed, however, that the tape was our trump card. The improper conduct it proved was such that we were sure Fiske would make the FBI back off.

"It's impossible to imagine a more exciting movie. An Oscar contender that stands a good chance of rivaling the cult status of Cuckoo's Nest."
—Rona Barrett

The problem was, I told Abrams, I couldn't be sure that the agents wouldn't still talk to that source or other underworld sources about me.

The next morning I called Billowitz's supervisor, just to be sure he had gotten Fiske's message. His men were on hold, he said. But he also confirmed—this time by name, not initials—that they intended, on his instructions, to talk to the mobster if they couldn't get my cooperation. It was then—when I knew the threat wasn't just from one misguided agent—that I decided to write about the incident some day.

The next day Abrams and Fiske agreed to meet with me the following Monday. The agents would be kept on hold until then, Abrams was assured.

The next morning Fiske and I bumped into each other getting off a plane in Washington. We were both headed for the Justice Department, and we shared a cab. Except for his assurance that he didn't think I was in any danger, we didn't discuss my case.

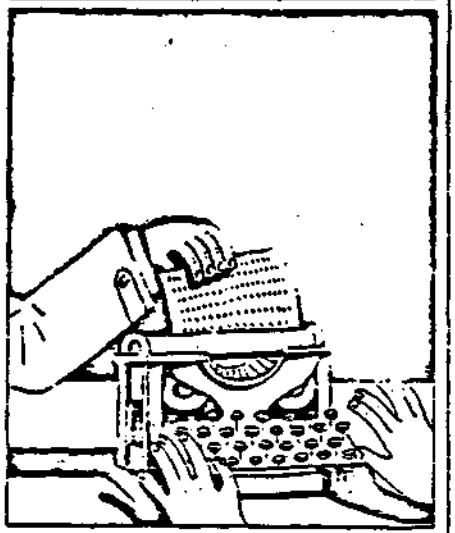
Nor did I discuss my case at the Justice Department, where I was interviewing top officials for an article on Attorney General Griffin Bell.

That Monday afternoon, as Abrams and I and an associate from his firm sat in the reception area of Fiske's office, a young assistant U.S. attorney walked by. Stopping to say hello to Abrams, who knew him and had stood up to greet him, he looked down at me and whispered to Abrams, "Are you here on a criminal matter?" I felt in the dock—as if I were the wrongdoer.

We were ushered into the office of Fiske's executive assistant, Barry Kingham (who has since gone into private practice). Fiske wanted Kingham to hear the whole story first before he decided what to do.

I laid out what had happened, and explained that I had the tape to prove it. Abrams, who had taken notes when he had listened to the tape, repeated the most important lines to Kingham. Then, he explained what kind of a First Amendment and due process violation this was. Even if by now, because of recent court decisions, there are some circumstances under which reporters have to testify before grand juries, the government has to make some showing of need first. And, most important, the whole process is supposed to come through a series of legal steps scrutinized by a court, with reporters having the opportunity to contest the request. "If the government wants some of Steve's research," I remember Abrams saying, "then they should subpoena it in court so I can fight it." Instead, these FBI agents were short-circuiting that whole process, going on a fishing expedition for information they weren't even sure existed (and in the case of the "sealed indictment," that they had to know didn't exist) and using threats of physical violence to coerce me. Kingham asked me to send him the tape the next morning so he could listen to it. Then he'd discuss the matter with Fiske and the FBI and get back to us next week. Meantime, the FBI would remain on hold.

What kind of control does the FBI have over the way it interrogates reporters and citizens?



A few days later Kingham told Abrams by phone that the FBI didn't feel they had threatened me, although he personally could see how I might have taken it that way, and that they were holding firm on their request to question me. Wasn't there some way I could talk to them a little bit to end the matter? he asked.

When Abrams relayed the message to me, I stressed that the problem was that I could answer the questions about whether I had the taped confession and the indictment, but that the government-documents question would tip off the FBI to what I was on to in my book, would betray sources, and was just plain irrelevant to any real law-enforcement need they had. Moreover, how could I be sure that if I denied that I had a tape, they wouldn't go ask underworld people anyway? Besides, the whole process of submitting to their questions before the book came out was like a newspaper reporter being forced to talk to the police before he breaks a major news scoop involving a crime. I didn't want to do it and certainly didn't think they should be able to threaten me into doing it.

We toyed with the idea of appealing to the Attorney General or the FBI director but then decided on a less drastic step that might end the whole thing quickly.

I called Kingham. The real danger to [illegible], I told him, was that because of the FBI talking to mob operatives, the underworld might think I had a confession that I didn't have. So, I said, I've decided that my only chance to deflate those rumors, if the FBI persisted, was to get this entire episode—Billowitz's tape-recorded threat and all—out into the headlines along with my vow that I didn't have such a tape. "You mean you'd go to the press?" Kingham said. "Barry," I responded, "I am the press, and the FBI came to me." Kingham said he'd talk more to the FBI, then to Abrams.

Within a few days Abrams had won an agreement from Kingham and Fiske. In return for my assuring Fiske, orally, that I had no such tape-recorded confession, the FBI would not question anyone, including the Hoffa suspect, about the supposed confession or anything else having to do with my work. Also, I would not be asked to comment in any way on any government documents I had or didn't have, and the government would drop its interest in that. As for the nonexistent sealed indictment, Kingham had agreed all along that this question was absurd, and it was dropped. Although I hadn't promised as a result not to "go to the press" with the episode, now I had no incentive to; on the contrary, to do so would *introduce* the question of that supposed confession rather than answer a rumor that had already been raised. (Now that the book has been published, this isn't a concern because it's clear from the book that I had new information on the Hoffa murder but no such confession.)

What if I hadn't had access to the U.S. attorney? What if the U.S. attorney and his executive assistant weren't well-motivated officials willing to stick their necks out and interfere in an FBI investigation? What if I didn't have access to a heavyweight lawyer who could encourage them in that direction?

Which in turn raises the general questions of what guidelines the FBI operates under when seeking information from a reporter, or, for that matter, from any citizen. Official Justice Department guidelines require the personal approval of the Attorney General before a reporter can be subpoenaed. What does it take before he can be questioned in this way? And what kind of control does the FBI have on how it interrogates any citizen so that threats aren't made that short-circuit the legal process? With all the post-Watergate investigation, reform, and congressional oversight of the FBI, is this how the Bureau's agents are conducting themselves across the country?

Remember, this was not the Farber case or a grand-jury testimony case: I was not casting myself as a reporter who, rightly or wrongly, refused to cooperate with the authorities. I hadn't had the chance to reach that decision before I had been threatened. ttt

(Rev 8-26-82)

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:
- ☐ Teletype
- ☐ Facsimile
- ☐ _____
  XX AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:
- ☐ Immediate
- ☐ Priority
- ☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:
- ☐ TOP SECRET
- ☐ SECRET
- ☐ CONFIDENTIAL
- ☐ UNCLAS E F T O
- ☐ UNCLAS

Date ~~10/26/89~~

TO: [redacted]

FROM: [redacted]

Enclosed are [redacted] two copies of the "Playboy" article, November 1989.

On July 30, 1975, former TEAMSTER President JAMES R. HOFFA disappeared. This disappearance continues to remain unsolved. DONALD FRANKOS reported to "Playboy" magazine that he was informed by member(s) of the alleged "hit team" responsible for the HOFFA disappearance of the facts surrounding said disappearance. Said report was published in the "Playboy" magazine, November 1989 edition.

[redacted]

9-60052-[illegible]

[redacted] ENCLOSURE

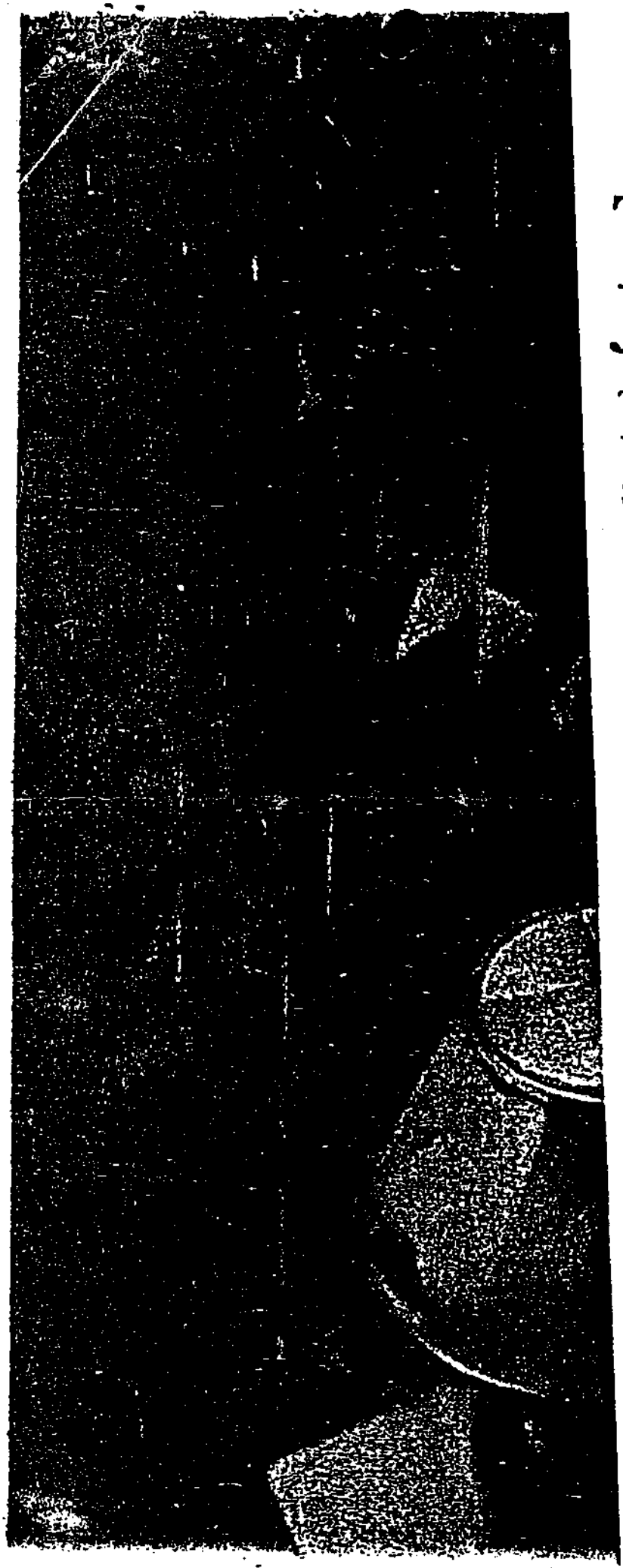
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Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ Per 5056
(Number) (Time)

Non public source material



The Hit on Jimmy Hoffa

THE MOST NOTORIOUS, UNSOLVED CRIME OF THE SEVENTIES, EXPLAINED

- *Who killed Jimmy Hoffa?*
- *Why was he killed?*
- *How was he lured to his death?*
- *Where was his body buried?*

Introduction: *Donald Frankos—Federally protected witness #38995066—has spent the past 30 years bouncing in and out of the New York State prison system on a succession of charges: drug running, aggravated assault, grand larceny, contract murder. His criminal career—on the street and in prison—has brought him into contact with the most notorious Mobsters of our time: Anthony "Fat Tony" Salerno, Joseph "Crazy Joe" Gallo and John Gotti. These Mob ties, along with his career in organized crime, have made Frankos, a.k.a. Tony the Greek, a prized source of information on the underworld. Frankos has stories to tell, and the Government has been eager to listen. His most spectacular revelations deal with the July 30, 1975, disappearance of former Teamsters leader Jimmy Hoffa, a crime that remains unsolved. Frankos, who claims to have been part of the hit team assembled to carry out the killing, re-creates Hoffa's death, dismemberment and burial in this exclusive account for* Playboy.

PLAYBOY: You claim to have participated in the most notorious crime of the Seventies: the killing of Jimmy Hoffa. Tell us about it.

FRANKOS: In 1975, I had crap games on two floors of the Hotel Wilson, on Fifty-eighth Street in New York. I was sitting in the lobby around four o'clock in the morning, when John Sullivan—Fat Tony Salerno's main hitter—told me Fat Tony wanted to meet me. I went up the following day to see him with Sally Bugs [Briguglio], a soldier in the Genovese crime family. We got in John Sullivan's Mercedes and we drove up

ILLUSTRATION BY GARY KELLEY

to a Hundred and Fifteenth Street between First and Second Avenue to his social club—it was like an office where he done all of his criminal enterprises.

Fat Tony was sitting in the kitchen there. He was a little squat guy with a cigar sticking out of his mouth; he had a gruffy voice and he vibrated authority. John Sullivan introduced me. Fat Tony got up behind the table he was sitting at and he came and he kissed me. You know, them Mafia kisses. And he says, I heard a lot of good stories about you and too bad you're only half-Italian, because I would like you to stay with my crew.

We sit down and we start talking and he says, I need you and John for a very important hit that's coming up very shortly. This hit concerns a guy that's doing time in the Federal system. He done some bad things and we're looking to kill him. The hit won't be going into effect right away, but Fat Tony just wanted to keep me and John Sullivan on hold.

PLAYBOY: You had already done hits for Salerno?

FRANKOS: I'd done about four hits that he knew about, but he never gave me the orders. The orders came from one of his captains in his crime family.

PLAYBOY: How long had Salerno known Sullivan?

FRANKOS: John Sullivan was doing business with Fat Tony Salerno since the Sixties. Fat Tony needed Irish guys to run the West Side, because they were already involved in corruption there. Without these Irish guys, Fat Tony couldn't operate. They were vicious killers. They didn't use no diplomacy.

PLAYBOY: So you guys weren't strangers?

FRANKOS: They knew we were all right. In this criminal enterprise, everybody knows each other, but you don't necessarily have to meet them. They hear about you. You could become a legend overnight if you do a big hit. Then, when you do meet, it's like you know each other for years.

They knew we were free-lance hitters. We worked for the Israeli Mob, we worked for the Albanians, we worked for the Greeks, we worked for the Italians' organized-crime families and we worked for the Irish. And we done some work with the Puerto Rican Mobsters. We free-lanced out to them.

PLAYBOY: What did Fat Tony tell you about the hit?

FRANKOS: He didn't go into details to me, but he told me that there was going to be a hit on a guy in Lewisburg, the Federal penitentiary. And that he was going to supply the pistols and the silencers, and he knew that we used meat cleavers and buzz saws to chop up the body.

PLAYBOY: Buzz saws?

FRANKOS: Like you use to cut down trees. You plug them in or you can use them on batteries. That was our forte at the time. I was involved in a couple of them—I chopped up a couple bodies, OK?

Before we left there, Fat Tony says the hit will earn us anywhere from one hundred thousand to two hundred thousand; a very important hit. They need two good hitters on this hit, OK? But he's going to keep us on hold because this guy's up for parole soon; he didn't mention the name right there and then. This guy's up for parole very shortly and if he does come out, that's when we're going to go and do the work on him. But until then, stay loose and when this guy comes out, then you do your work. Before I left, he gave me five thousand dollars in hundred-dollar bills, for coming out of prison, and I thanked him for

A MOMENT OF MURDER. According to Frankos, Hoffa was killed by two hired gunmen in a Mafia safe house near Detroit. We asked two artists to try to capture the look and feel of the murder scene. On page 74, Gary Kelley depicts Hoffa's final moment of realization and dread; on these pages, Kinuko Y. Craft imagines the way it was when the killers fired the fatal shots.

that. He kissed me and I got back into the Mercedes and we drove back downtown.

As we were going downtown, John Sullivan mentioned to me that the hit would be going like this: Tony Provenzano, who was in charge of the Local 560 Truckers' Union in Jersey, was one of the most powerful union delegates at that time. But he was also a captain in the Genovese crime family. Tony Pro was doing time with Jimmy Hoffa in Lewisburg Penitentiary. They had a discussion in the yard. Jimmy Hoffa says, When I come out, I want to go back as a leader of the unions. Tony Pro says, No, we got our man in there right now, so you just step down. You're too hot. They had a big argument, and Jimmy Hoffa told him, I'll go to the grand jury and I'll expose you and Fat Tony Salerno and I'm going to tell them how you were shaking down our unions and taking money from our union funds to open up criminal enterprises and businesses on your own. And Jimmy Hoffa smacks Tony Pro in the eye.

Tony Pro got a visit from his brother Nunzio Provenzano, who was also a captain in the Genovese organized-crime family. Tony Pro told him, Jimmy Hoffa's gonna turn on us, and not only that, he smacked me in the yard in front of a couple inmates. I want this guy hit. But Hoffa has a rabbi [criminal mentor] in Detroit named Tony Giacalone. Tony Pro always referred to Giacalone as that piece of shit. One particular time, he mentioned, This Giacalone is fuckin' everybody's wives.

PLAYBOY: He didn't approve?

FRANKOS: Tony Pro was an old-time Mustache Pete, and Mustache Petes don't care for that. They have, like, a little honor amongst themselves. I tell you, organized-crime figures are more honorable than the Feds.

PLAYBOY: How so?

FRANKOS: I've seen two faces of evil. I've seen organized crime on all levels. I've seen Albanian wise guys—a wise guy in criminal terminology is a person in organized crime. I've seen Greek wise guys. I've seen Italian, Colombian, Israeli and Puerto Rican wise guys. And you take all those crews and put them together and in their little pinkie, they got more honor than the entire Justice Department. If I wanted to pick between organized crime and the Feds, as far as honorability and integrity go, I would go with organized crime. You can deal with them better, and they'll tell it like it is.

PLAYBOY: How was the Hoffa hit planned?

FRANKOS: In the late part of 1973, I was bringing Jimmy Coonan's wife, Edna, up to see him in Sing Sing. And John told me to tell Jimmy about the work he got to do and he can make himself fifty thousand dollars on this hit when he comes out. So I took this message up to Jimmy Coonan and I told him the circumstances and how the hit is going to go down and who was going to get killed . . . Jimmy Hoffa. OK?

Now, before all this materialized, in January 1974, I got arrested with a concealed .357 Magnum that I used to keep on my possession on the floor of my crap game at the Hotel Wilson, in case anybody tried to take off these business guys that came to gamble. A precinct that we weren't paying off ended up busting me and another guy with the pistols. I had to go to court. Even though John Sullivan had this particular judge in his pocket, the judge says no, I have to do some time. John was trying to get me a light sentence so I could be out there for that hit. But they ended up giving me two and a half to five in January 1974.

PLAYBOY: Where were you doing time?

FRANKOS: At that time, I was in The Tombs. That's the house of detention in Manhattan, One Hundred Center Street. Now, they told me Jimmy Coonan's coming out very shortly and the hit will be soon as this Coonan comes out and soon as this other guy comes out. We found out he's due to make parole in the summer of 1975.

PLAYBOY: We heard you mention that date on the tapes you gave us. It's a matter of public record that Jimmy Hoffa was paroled by Richard Nixon in December 1971. Your date is off by four years.

FRANKOS: I would have looked all these dates up if I was bullshitting you, you know? I'm not here to ask Tony Salerno no questions. My job is to do the hit and get the fuck out. I just got the dates wrong. Fat Tony said we want this guy hit very soon. We'll let you know when to hit him.

PLAYBOY: There was talk that Gerald Ford was getting ready to give Hoffa a full pardon in 1975, which would have nullified the conditions Nixon put on him when he was released in 1971. It would have allowed him to run for Teamsters' Union president again.

FRANKOS: OK. That's got to be it. That's what Salerno was trying to tell me. I'm going back fifteen years now. Everything I'm telling you is by memory. It's not what I have read or what I was told. Everything comes out of my memory. The only thing I'm sure of is the killing. Believe me, I remember.

PLAYBOY: Go ahead with your story.

FRANKOS: Now, in the meantime, I get sent up to Dannemora. They put me right next to Joe "Mad Dog" Sullivan and I explained the whole situation to him.

PLAYBOY: Is he related to John Sullivan?

FRANKOS: No. No relation. Just the same name. They were close friends. Now, I told Joe, When are you coming out? He says, I'm coming out December 1975. I says, If this hit don't come down, if I get out afterward, I'll tell John to take you on this Jimmy Hoffa hit with them. He say That sounds good to me. Now, me ar Joe Sullivan, we were going to testify f Jerry "The Jew" Rosenberg—the famo jailhouse lawyer—concerning somethi that happened to him in the county jai

PLAYBOY: How did you know Rosenberg

FRANKOS: In 1963, I was at Sing Sing. ta ing books and magazines over to t death house. That's when I first met hi and his codefendant, Anthony Portelli used to go by their cells and shoot t breeze with them.

PLAYBOY: Go on with the Hoffa story.

FRANKOS: They brought us down to t Federal institution on West Street, a that's when Coonan and John Sulliv came to visit me and Joe Sullivan. A they were telling us how to kill this g and how much money we got. They w putting money on the books for us a they were bringing us packages and t were giving the correction officers do there money so they could supply us w booze and cocaine and whatever needed. We lived comfortably down prison there.

Around the late part of July 1975—not sure of the date—John came up see me with Jimmy Coonan and brother Jackie. And they told me on visit that they were going to go up Michigan and they were going to t care of Hoffa. They made an agreem for the contract to be for two hund thousand dollars. And since you're out, we're going to give you a little centage of the money. Then they as me when Joe Sullivan's coming out. I them in December. They said, Tell we're going to take care of him with s money and we're going to go ahead the hit.

PLAYBOY: Let's go back a bit. How did get your introduction to Salerno?

FRANKOS: In 1972, I came out of D nemora prison, in New York, with C Joe Gallo. I met Crazy Joe on the str originally, 'cause he used to have all baboot games and he ran all them b out joints on Eighth Avenue in the T ties. I was shaking down a couple Gr down there that I knew . . . you know, nice way. Ali Baba—he was Joe Ga right-hand man—told me, Leave t alone, because I got Joe Gallo with and I says, Fuck you and fuck Joe. I at them stages that I didn't care a who the wise guy was. When he we Auburn in the late Sixties, Joe C locked by me for about eighteen mo I got very close to him. I taught him to play bridge. He was flamboyant, a ulous dresser. Even in prison, he wa maculate. His handkerchief hac match his pants and all that.

So when I came out, him and Car Tramunti, the boss of the Lucchese c family, sent me to work for Vi

(continued on page

Jimmy Hoffa

(continued from page 80)

"Fat Tony Salerno told Giacalone, Hoffa's not running no place, because he's going to be dead."

"Chin" Gigante, the leader of the Genovese crime family. They gave me ten thousand in cash to buy some clothes and get myself situated with an apartment in Manhattan.

Now, at that time, John Sullivan was an Irish boss on the West Side of Manhattan. He ran the docks. He ran all the peep shows and the massage parlors and them smut bookstores on the West Side for three organized-crime partners—Fat Tony Salerno, Matty the Horse Ianniello and Chin Gigante. I knew John Sullivan from years ago—we both grew up on the West Side—and he told me to stay with him, that he'd give me a crap game off Fifty-eighth Street in the Hotel Wilson. I was an enforcer at the dice game, so nobody could take off that dice game and there was no problems like people arguing that they got ripped off. I had a Spanish kid and an Italian kid with sawed-off shotguns in briefcases watching downstairs in the lobby for any guy that looked to stick up them games. We couldn't call the cops. We held justice right in the street.

At that time, we were making ten thousand dollars a night. We worked four nights a week, so we were bringing in forty thousand. Out of the forty thousand, we had to kick back twenty-five thousand to Chin Gigante and Fat Tony. I used to skim off the top, too. I used to take fifteen hundred, two thousand a night under the cuff, you know.

PLAYBOY: You weren't a virgin at this time. You'd been around those guys a lot.

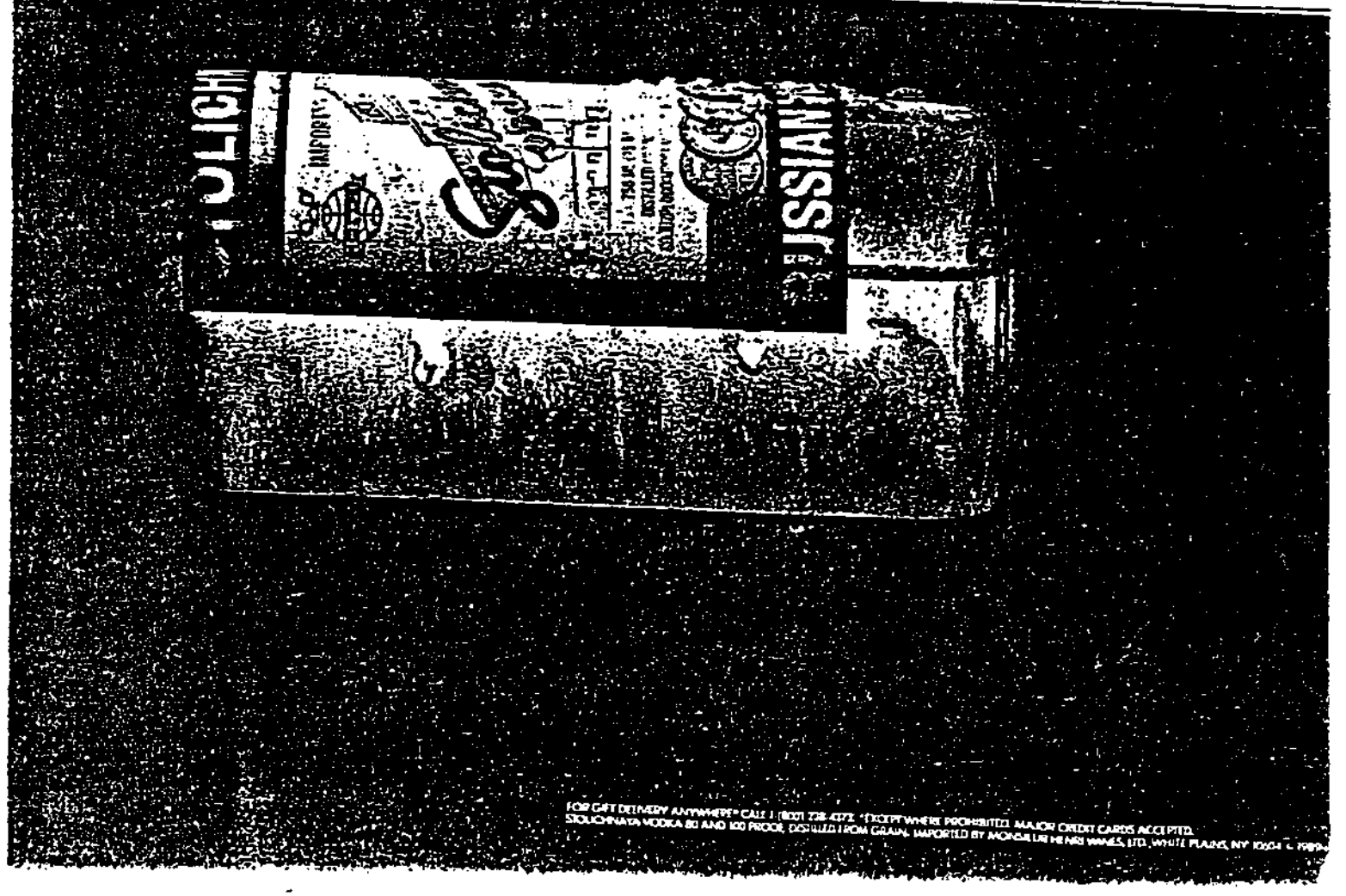
FRANKOS: I made my bones with them guys. I done work with them. I killed guys with them. I went away doing time for them. I was a stand-up guy with them. I was a muscle guy, but I was a low-key type of criminal. Nobody knew my business and everything like that, you know. The ones that did know my business, they never told nobody.

PLAYBOY: How was the Hoffa murder carried out?

FRANKOS: Tony Giacalone was a boss of the Detroit Mob. He was a rabbi to Jimmy Hoffa. Fat Tony called Giacalone on the phone, and Giacalone said, Why don't you leave Hoffa alone, because he's a scared rabbit and once you've scared somebody, they're going to run to the Feds on you. And t what you're trying to do—force this gu run to the Feds. Fat Tony Salerno told calone. He's not running no place, bec he's going to be dead. And if you ge volved, you're going to be dead also. step away from him. You gotta take or from me. I run this show. You get Chuckie O'Brien, Jimmy Hoffa's step and make him as bait to lure Jimmy H to a sit-down in Mount Clemens, Michig The only guys Hoffa would trust O'Brien and Giacalone. So you just tell kid O'Brien to go with Jimmy Hoffa to meet in Mount Clemens, where we co whack him.

Now, he relayed the message to O'Bri The kid was reluctant at first, but then had to go for it, because they were going kill him if he didn't. They told him, H not your blood father, even though grew you up. You gotta do this now. If y don't do it, and you tip your father we're going to kill you and your father a your whole family. So the kid says he'll for it, but what's he going to get out of They offered him a million dollars ca and they were going to put him in a po tion as a union boss, but not on the boo For the rest of his life, he will be taken ca of, as far as money goes.

They met at a diner, and Giacalone w there, when O'Brien came with Sally Bug He was like a flunky to Tony Provenzan Tony Provenzano, his brother Nunzio an



non-public [redacted] material

Giacalone were supposed to meet [with Hoffa] in the house in Mount Clemens, Michigan, for a sit-down to straighten everything out that happened in Lewisburg. And make amends.

So they picked up Jimmy Hoffa and Jimmy Hoffa didn't want to go for it. He says, Where's Giacalone? O'Brien says, Call him up and he'll explain everything to you. Jimmy Hoffa calls up Giacalone, and he says, I'll be at the house. They let the kid take him to the house. O'Brien told his father he checked the house already and it was safe. So they got in the car. In the meantime, Jimmy Coonan——

PLAYBOY: Who was with Hoffa then?

FRANKOS: Sally Bugs and O'Brien. Hoffa was in the front seat, Sally Bugs was doing the driving and the kid was in the back, because Hoffa won't trust nobody in the back, only O'Brien. Hoffa knows about getting hit in the back of the head.

In the house, Jimmy Coonan and John Sullivan were waiting. As soon as you walk in the house, on the left is a large living room. Adjacent to the living room is a little kitchenette. They positioned themselves in that area. They had a .22 with a silencer on it and the bullets were dumdum bullets—the type of bullets that explode the head.

When Hoffa walked in, he made a turn to sit down and Coonan and John Sullivan rushed out and Coonan hit him twice in the forehead with the bullets—exploded his brains.

Jimmy Coonan is a bull of a guy, an ex-fighter and everything. He put Hoffa on his back and he carried him down the stairs. They had everything situated in the basement. There was a large table and over the table was a huge light. Jimmy Coonan and John had goggles and rubber gloves that doctors use to operate on patients. They plugged in the bucksaw and they also had a meat cleaver to cut away any tendons. On the table was all these black-plastic bags and cut rope. Coonan was cutting, and Sullivan was bagging 'em up. Coonan severed Hoffa's head and, with a pocket knife, he cut a lock of hair from the side of Hoffa's head and kept it for good luck.

PLAYBOY: You seem to know about their actions in great detail. Why?

FRANKOS: John Sullivan and Jimmy Coonan came to visit me and Joe Sullivan in jail—I think it was the Friday after Hoffa got whacked—to tell us that everything was straightened out. Coonan threw Jimmy Hoffa's lock of hair on my table and he told me, This is our friend's lock. It's a good-luck charm for me. And it *was* a good-luck charm. He was out almost fourteen or fifteen years.

PLAYBOY: Continue with your story.

FRANKOS: Coonan handed the head to John Sullivan, and he put it in the bag and tied it up with secure ropes and they threw it on the side. Jimmy Coonan started to sever both arms off. He made four pieces out of the two arms. Then he severed the two legs off and made them in two parts, by the kneecap. He took the torso and they made three bags out of the torso and they put the torso in the bags. Next to the table was a meat freezer, and they stuck the bags in there. It took him about an hour, he told me, to clean up. They washed everything up and they went upstairs.

Bugs went outside to a pay phone and made a phone call to Giacalone and he told him to bring a bag man over, because they want their money. While they were waiting for the money, Bugs went to a tiny delicatessen over there, and he bought meatball heroes and Pepsis and he went back to the house and they ate the meatball sandwiches.

Now the discussion was where to put the body. Bugs calls Giacalone and says, These guys want to know if they can take the body parts to one of your places where they mash them cars. Giacalone says to Bugs, I'm talking to you, I don't want to talk to them. I don't want to get no conspiracy. I don't know John Sullivan, I don't know Jimmy Coonan, and they can't use the place. They handled the body, let them handle the burial, too, to its final resting ground.

John Sullivan asked Bugs, Is this house safe? And he says, Yeah, you could keep the body parts down there for a couple months until we find someplace where we can bury 'em or burn them up.

PLAYBOY: It's hard to believe that on an important hit like this, they didn't have a plan beforehand to dispose of the body.

FRANKOS: They made an arrangement with Tony Giacalone, but he didn't want to be bothered with it. He owns a place where he used to dispose of a lot of bodies.

PLAYBOY: You're talking about the place run by Raffael Quasarano and Peter Vitale?

FRANKOS: Yes. They could crush the body and make a fender out of him. But they were too afraid to even have Hoffa be crushed over there. They didn't want no evidence at all. Quasarano and Vitale were scared tremblers. You hear me? They were tremblers. They didn't want to be involved, because they knew the FBI would be on their asses. These guys cannot do no time and they were weak and Giacalone knew they were weak. If they knew anything about anybody being taken someplace to be crushed, it'd be all over town in two seconds. So they left everything up to Fat Tony Salerno. They figured these guys will chop him up and take them pieces back to New York. But Jimmy Coonan said, Fuck them and we'll keep the body here and youse take care of it. They didn't want to be bothered with transporting the body. They didn't know nobody around there. They got the money and got out.

It was a power thing, a rival-gang thing. Detroit don't like New York, 'cause New York is more powerful and more flamboyant than Detroit. Like, if you don't take it, then we're not going to take it. You done the hit, you dispose of the body. Finally, they agreed to take the body when Joe Sullivan came out of prison.

PLAYBOY: Weren't they afraid that body was going to find the body o course of those five months?

FRANKOS: No. They weren't worri cause the house was secured. No co ing to be looking around there.

PLAYBOY: When was the body buried? [redacted]

FRANKOS: Joe Sullivan came out of five months later and he picked body and put it in a big drum. H another guy named Augie Manor truck that had a lot of oil drums back from an organized-crime t firm. They put the drum with Hoff in the middle of the truck, so in c state troopers wanna find out what is in there, they'd have to oper drum.

They transported the body fron gan to Jersey, where there was a c tion site in Meadowlands. The building some sections of Giants S there, and wise guys ran the ceme ing business. Joe Sullivan was on th at that time for John Gotti's C crime family, and he was just chec picking up four or five hundred c week to show his parole officer working. So he took the body part buried 'em right in the cement. Let me just bury the son of a bitch it over with, and that's where they to rest. His final resting place.

PLAYBOY: And that's where the bod

FRANKOS: Yeah. That's where he is

PLAYBOY: How much were you and livan paid?

FRANKOS: They ended up giving J van twenty-five thousand dollars f ing the body. I ended up gettin thousand to keep me satisfied in my conference and everything. P were giving me anything I wanted four or five correction officers used to give them reefer, cocain Regal for me. Plus, they were p the female correction officers so get laid, too. They was taking car

PLAYBOY: What happened to Manc

FRANKOS: When I came out in 1981 livan said, Listen, we got to kill t Manori, because he was instrun burying the body. But he didn't w Augie Manori for that reason; h to marry Augie Manori's wife [la we ended up killing Augie Ma shot him in the head with a 9mm, his stomach, wrapped him up in dumped him in the Hudson Ri the body went right down. You k body goes right down.

PLAYBOY: Did Joe Sullivan ever Hoffa's burial site?

FRANKOS: In 1981, in September, I of prison and Joe Sullivan was w me. We killed two people over in the Genovese crime family. I don go into that, because it's being i ed. But after the hit was made, w

at Meadowlands and watched a Giants game. We were getting free tickets at that time. We walked into the flats part of the bleacher seats. To the right of us, there's the goal post. And we sat down in the section that Jimmy Hoffa is buried underneath. The Giants made a few touchdowns, and we sat directly up from Jimmy Hoffa's final resting place. And we said, Do you think Jimmy's watching the game? Hey, Jimmy, this touchdown is for you.

PLAYBOY: What has happened to the hitters since the Hoffa murder?

FRANKOS: Joe Sullivan blew Sally Bugs's head off on the Lower East Side, on Mulberry Street. Bugs was a stool pigeon. Fat Tony Salerno is doing a hundred years. Tony Provenzano is dead. Jimmy Coonan is doing seventy-five years. Joe Sullivan is doing anywhere from seventy-five to life in state prison. And I'm here with twenty-five to life. They can never get John Sullivan. He's been out since the late Sixties. In fact, he's the only one that's out there today who was an actual killer.

PLAYBOY: There's one more—Chuckie O'Brien.

FRANKOS: O'Brien is out. I don't even consider him a criminal.

PLAYBOY: Why not?

FRANKOS: It's like me taking a pistol to your head and tellin' you, You're comin' with me. I'm gonna put another pistol in your hand. If you don't shoot that guy, I'm gonna shoot you directly in the head. You're gonna be a dead man. He didn't have no alternatives.

PLAYBOY: Have you talked to the FBI about all of this?

FRANKOS: They came to me for the story; I didn't go to them. They brought in an FBI agent out of New York. His name was Arthur Ruffels. I'll never forget that name. They told me they had information from a very high-power authority that I was the actual killer with John Sullivan and Joe Sullivan, OK? I took a lie-detector test with the FBI concerning Jimmy Hoffa and I passed it with flying colors. The only thing they didn't ask me was if I was there. They were afraid to ask me that, because it would make them look like shit—I was in prison at the time Hoffa was hit. They knew I had furloughs, but they didn't want to expose that. It was in their Federal prison system that I was getting these furloughs, and the guy who was giving these furloughs was under surveillance for ten years.

PLAYBOY: Did they ask you if you had a furlough at the time of the hit on Hoffa?

FRANKOS: No. They proposed the question, but [former U.S. Attorney] Rudolph Giuliani didn't want to do it, because they had to open up a big investigation and it would make them look like shit.

PLAYBOY: It's a question that has been on our minds.

FRANKOS: It's going to make it very, very, very hot for them. They wanted me to testify against this guy who was selling furloughs, but the statute of limitations ran out on them.

PLAYBOY: Who was getting out on furloughs?

FRANKOS: Guys like me and high-powered *mafiosos*. We had all the counselors at that time working for us. We gave the counselors twenty-five hundred to thirty-five hundred, depending on how long you wanted to stay out.

PLAYBOY: You arranged furloughs because you had jobs you wanted to do outside prison?

FRANKOS: Yes.

PLAYBOY: What kind of jobs were they?

FRANKOS: I committed approximately nine murders on furloughs.

PLAYBOY: If you knew you had a hit coming up, you would arrange for the furlou advance?

FRANKOS: Yes. The money was given guy on the streets. Friends of mine meet him in a night club or one of own clubs. He'd get a girl, usually, a envelope, and say, This is for *The G*

PLAYBOY: Going back to the house the Hoffa hit was committed: You s know it very well. Have you ever there?

FRANKOS: I was there twice. I com something in '75, you know, while I prison, OK? And in 1981. I comm couple of things in Michigan. But going to go into the first time I wa because I don't want no new indict

PLAYBOY: You've handed over to us fourteen tapes detailing your entir organized crime and in the Gover witness-protection program. Why make them?

FRANKOS: I made these tapes be might be here one day and gone to The way things were going, I t was going to be dead pretty so might as well tell my story, so yo what we're dealing with, the Mafi Government.

PLAYBOY: Why did you think you dead soon?

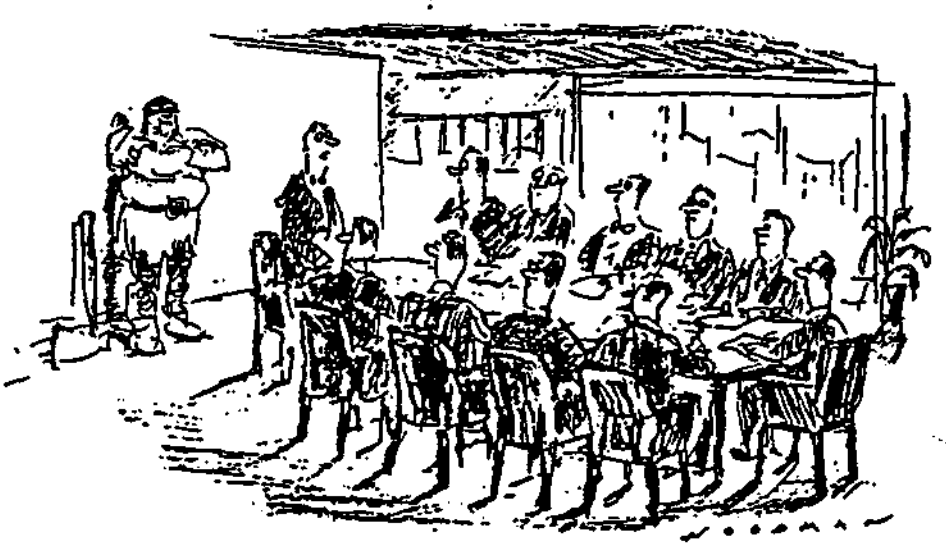
FRANKOS: Because I'm in a positio don't look too good at all. I'm l four years in a cell. I'm controlle ous correction officers. They m day take me outside and say I wa escape and shoot me in the head it done before. I've seen a lot of r die in jail—I'm not talking only a lot of power criminals in jail. A den, everybody that I knew a that got arrested, six months to a they die from stomach cancer. I what the hell they might be fe you know? And I killed guys in doctored up the books so it don If they want you, they're going I'm not being paranoid. I'm just tious.

PLAYBOY: So you wanted to leave your life, in case anything hap

FRANKOS: I was through with ment. I'm not going to get nc the Government. I just said, O me make these tapes up. Send cousin, in case something doe me, in case I do die in jail. Wh and gone, I'll be like Van G You know, Van Gogh wasn't p he was alive, OK? I figured t my destiny. I die, then comes the tapes. But one day, I was in the cell and I had the tap and I said, Let me call *Playbo*

PLAYBOY: And the rest is histo

FRANKOS: The rest is history. told you, to my knowledge, i you had a lie detector over t take it for you right now.



"Gentlemen, before we go any further, I want you all to realize that this next decision hasn't been easy for me. . . ."

[redacted]

DONALD FRANKOS REPORTED TO "PLAYBOY" MAGAZINE THAT HE WAS INFORMED BY MEMBER(S) OF THE ALLEGED "HIT TEAM" RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HOFFA DISAPPEARANCE OF THE FACTS SURROUNDING SAID DISAPPEARANCE. SAID REPORT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE "PLAYBOY" MAGAZINE, NOVEMBER 1989 EDITION. [redacted]

non public source material

9-60052-2925

FD-36 (Rev. 8-29-85)

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:
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- ☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:
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- ☐ SECRET
- ☐ CONFIDENTIAL
- ☐ UNCLAS E F T O
- ☐ UNCLAS

Date 1/17/92

TO [redacted]

FROM [redacted]

SUBJECT [redacted]

non public source material

[redacted]

Enclosed are the following:

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[redacted] copies [redacted] enclosures retained by OCS, ROOM 3042

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[redacted]

10. Two newspaper articles both dated 1/15/92, one from the DETROIT NEWS and the other from the USA TODAY.

[redacted]

non public sourced material

FD-350 (Rev. 5-6-81)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) The Detroit News, Detroit, Mich. 1A

Date: 1/15/92, Wednesday
Edition:

Title: Hoffa ordered hit on JFK accuser says

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:

Indexing:

Hoffa ordered hit on JFK, accuser says

■ Lacks credibility: Teamster chief's daughter calls story 'work of a sick and desperate mind.'

By Richard Willing
NEWS WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON — Accusations that Jimmy Hoffa ordered the murder of President John F. Kennedy is the "work of a sick and desperate mind," the daughter of the former Teamsters leader said.



Hoffa: Accused of hiring mob

Barbara Hoffa Crancer, a federal administrative law judge in St. Louis, said Tuesday's story in the New York Post "has every appearance of coming from someone who's desperate for money."

"With the focus on the assassination (through the current movie *JFK*), it seems to especially lack credibility," said Crancer, who knew the accuser, lawyer Frank Ragano, as one of her father's business associates.

In an interview in Tuesday's Post, prize-winning investigative reporter Jack Newfield quotes Ragano as saying he carried messages between Hoffa and two Southern mob leaders in a plot to kill Kennedy.

Hoffa's former lawyer said Hoffa instructed him, in early 1963, to tell Florida Mafia leader Santos Trafficante and New Orleans boss Carlos Marcello that "they had to kill the president."

Ragano, also Trafficante's attorney, said he passed the message. After the Nov. 22, 1963 assassination in Dallas, Ragano quoted Trafficante as saying: "The SOB is dead. Our problems are over. I hope that Jimmy is happy now ... we're out of trouble now. We will build hotels again. We'll get back into Cuba now. Jimmy owes me and he owes me big."

Hoffa, who disappeared from a Bloomfield Township restaurant parking lot in 1975, and has not been seen since, has long been an object of speculation in the Kennedy assassination. At the time of Kennedy's murder, Hoffa faced federal jury tampering charges brought by the Justice Department, then headed by the President's brother Robert F. Kennedy.

In an interview with Reuter, Newfield said of Ragano: "I think he is credible and what people have been waiting for — someone who has had

Please see Hoffa, 4A

FBI/

Hoffa: Ordered hit on JFK, accuser says

From page 3A

an attack of conscience and wants to tell the truth in his old age."

Ragano, who said he was never questioned by the Select House Committee on Assassinations, said he was willing to tell his story again to Congress under oath, the Post said. Newfield said Ragano, 68, of Tampa, would be making another statement soon.

Ragano did not return a call to his office.

Barbara Hoffa Crancer described Ragano as a "hanger-on" who was "always looking to my dad to get him jobs." Several years ago, she said, he attempted to raise money from old Hoffa friends and acquaintances for a movie based on Hoffa's life.

"It's suspicious," Crancer said. Ragano said nothing then about a possible Kennedy connection.

"You'd think if he knew the story then, he would have used it to raise money." She accused Ragano of trying to take advantage of publicity generated by Oliver Stone's movie, *JFK*.

Trafficante is dead and Marcello, now in his 80s, reportedly suffers from Alzheimer's disease. His whereabouts are unknown.

Ragano told the Post Hoffa's and Trafficante's deaths absolved him of the requirement to maintain confidentiality.

Last year, Ragano represented former Detroiter Charles "Chuckie" O'Brien, Hoffa's self-styled "stepson," in O'Brien's unsuccessful challenge to a government order expelling him from the Teamsters.

At the time, O'Brien called Ragano a "good lawyer who is taking this out of the goodness of his heart."

O'Brien was suspected — but never charged — in Hoffa's abduction.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

THE NATION

Mob lawyer's claim fuels JFK controversy

By Bruce Frankel
USA TODAY

NEW YORK — Conspiracy buffs and those skeptical about the official explanations of President Kennedy's assassination received a boost Tuesday from two sources.

▶ Mob lawyer Frank Ragano became the first person to claim a role in the killing. He told the *New York Post* he carried a message from Teamsters boss Jimmy Hoffa to Mafia godfathers demanding a "hit" on the president.

▶ Rep. Henry Gonzalez, D-Texas, said he will introduce legislation to open sealed Kennedy assassination records when the House reconvenes later this month.

UPI (1966 photo)
HOFFA

Already, the movie *JFK* is re-igniting the public's longstanding obsession with the assassination and is likely to further undermine acceptance of Warren Commission findings that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in killing Kennedy.

Nearly 75% of those questioned in a new *Time*/CNN poll of 1,500 adults believe the truth hasn't been told about the assassination. The poll had a margin of error of 2.6 percentage points.

The idea of a mob role isn't new.

But, "he's what we've been waiting for for the last 20 years — the older guy who's gotten an attack of conscience and who knows secrets," says Jack Newfield, who interviewed Ragano for the *Post*.

But Steven Brill, author of *Teamsters*, says Ragano "was a peripheral figure. ... Hoffa didn't order those guys to do anything. ... When he forgot he was their tool is when he got killed."

Ragano says he now believes he conveyed a fatal message from Hoffa in early 1963 to Florida mob boss Santos Trafficante and New Orleans mob boss Carlos Marcello.

The story supports the conclusion in 1979 of the House Select Committee on Assassinations that Marcello, Trafficante and Hoffa had the "motive, means and opportunity" to kill the president. The panel never questioned Ragano.

A panoply of conspiracy theories have flourished from almost the first reports of Kennedy's shooting; right-wingers in Dallas, the Mafia, Castro, the Soviet Union, the CIA and the FBI have all been "linked" to the crime.

Hoffa's daughter, Barbara Ann Crancer, 53, a Missouri administrative law judge, says that Ragano has other motives.

Now appealing a second tax-evasion conviction, he "is a desperate and very sick man" trying to sell "his books by attacking a dead person."

"Nowhere in my heart do I believe my father is capable of doing such a thing," says Crancer who is asking the Justice Department to open FBI files on Hoffa's 1976 disappearance.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

USA TODAY
(city, page, name of newspaper, city and state.) pg. 3A

Date: 1/15/92, WEDNESDAY
Edition: USA TODAY
Title: Mob lawyer's claim fuels JFK controversy.
Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:

Indexing:

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 5-8-81)

489

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Director's Office

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non public source material

BE ADVISED USA TODAY, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1992, AS WELL AS THE DETROIT NEWS, SAME DATE, PUBLISHED ARTICLES WHICH

9-60052-2931

REPORTED MOB LAWYER FRANK RAGANO CLAIMS HE, RAGANO, CARRIED A MESSAGE FROM TEAMSTERS BOSS, JIMMY HOFFA, TO MAFIA GODFATHERS DEMANDING A "HIT" ON THE PRESIDENT (KENNEDY). [redacted]

[redacted]

non public source material

[redacted] HOFFA'S DAUGHTER, BARBARA ANN CRANCER, A MISSOURI ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE COMMENTED IN THE ARTICLES ON

RAGANO, HE "IS A DESPERATE AND VERY SICK MAN" TRYING TO SELL "HIS BOOKS BY ATTACKING A DEAD PERSON." [redacted]

non public source material

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0-93 (Rev. 01/25/91)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
)ERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATION MESSAGE FORM

489

TRANSMIT VIA:
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PRECEDENCE:
☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☒ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:
☐ TOP SECRET
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☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☒ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

[redacted]

non public source material

[redacted] THE APPEARANCE OF POLYGRAPH EXAMINER NAT LAURENDI, A FORMER NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT DETECTIVE, ON THE TELEVISION SHOW "A CURRENT AFFAIR" ON FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1992. THIS TELEVISION SHOW CONCERNED THE DISAPPEARANCE OF FORMER TEAMSTER PRESIDENT JIMMY HOFFA AND STATEMENTS MADE BY

9-60003-2939

******** FOR COMM CENTER USE ONLY ********

NOTE: Copy Designations Are On The Last Page Of This Teletype!!!

Approved By [redacted]

MRI/JUL [redacted]

Transmitted [redacted] AUG 26 1992

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0-93A (Rev. 01/25/91)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
)ERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATION MESSAGE FORM

^PAGE 2 UNCLAS E F T O

"JOHN DOE, SELF-PROCLAIMED HIT MAN" THAT HE PARTICIPATED IN THE MURDER OF JIMMY HOFFA. LAURENDI CONDUCTED A POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION OF "JOHN DOE" AND ADVISED THAT THE RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ASKED DID NOT SHOW DECEPTION.

[redacted]

non public source material

FD-36 (Rev. 11-17-88)

FBI

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CLASSIFICATION:
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☐ UNCLAS

Date 1/20/93

TO [redacted]

FROM [redacted]

SUBJECT : [redacted] non public source material

Enclosed for the Bureau are four newspaper clippings from "The Detroit Free Press" concerning the disappearance of JAMES R. HOFFA. These articles were published in the December 19, 20 and 21, 1992, editions of "The Detroit Free Press".

(2) - Bureau (Enc. -4)
2 - Detroit
[redacted]
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- 9-60052-2944

1 copies 0 enclosures
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"ENCLOSURE ATTACHED"

ENCLOSURE

[redacted]

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FD-350 (Rev. 5-8-81)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

The Detroit Free Press

Date: 12/19/92
Edition:

Title: HOFFEX

Character: 281A-DE-67821
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Detroit

Indexing:

HOFFA
THE SECRET FILES



James Riddle Hoffa

Rose from Detroit Local 299 to lead the Teamsters from 1957-67, when he entered federal prison for conspiracy, fraud and jury tampering. Paroled in 1971, Hoffa was bent on regaining Teamsters office when he vanished July 30, 1975.

THE CAST



Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano

Newark, N.J., area Teamsters boss identified by federal authorities as a lieutenant of organized crime. Convicted labor racketeer who spent time with Hoffa at the federal penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pa.



Louis (the Pope) Linteau

Former president of a Pontiac Teamsters local and confidant of Hoffa's. Hoffa stopped to visit him en route to a meeting the day he vanished. Linteau discovered Hoffa's abandoned car.

FBI/T



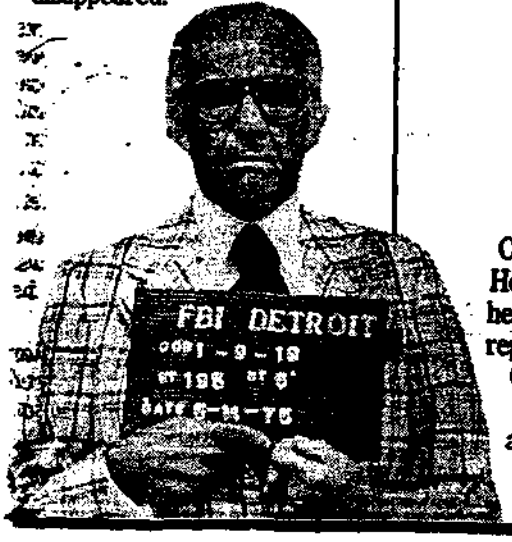


Charles (Chuckie) O'Brien

Teamsters organizer in Detroit and longtime aide to Hoffa, whom he sometimes called Dad. Had a falling out with Hoffa and was preparing to take a union post in Florida when Hoffa disappeared.



Above: Jimmy Hoffa talks to reporters in Washington on March 7, 1967, before beginning a prison sentence for jury tampering. Left: Hoffa with granddaughter Barbara Jo and daughter Barbara Crancer in 1966.



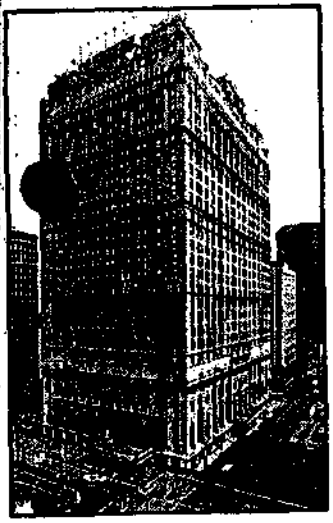
Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone

On the day he vanished, Hoffa told several people he was going to meet this reputed Detroit mob boss. Giacalone was a visible presence most of the afternoon in Southfield.



In 1971, Teamsters President Frank Fitzsimmons, left, tried to get the imprisoned Jimmy Hoffa a presidential pardon.

CHAIN OF EVENTS



1

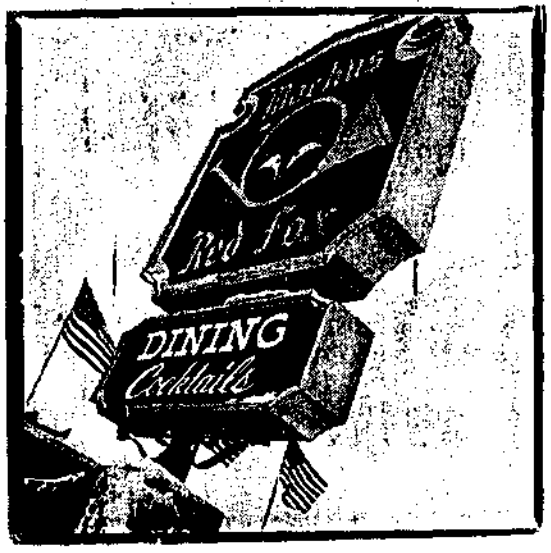
The day before he disappeared, Jimmy Hoffa had lunch with Detroit Mayor Coleman Young at the failing Book Cadillac Hotel. They discussed a possible bailout of the downtown hotel using Teamsters pension money.

2

Brothers Anthony and Vito Giacalone, identified by authorities as leaders of organized crime in Detroit, visited Hoffa only once at his northern Oakland County home, 18 days before the labor leader disappeared.



Vito Giacalone

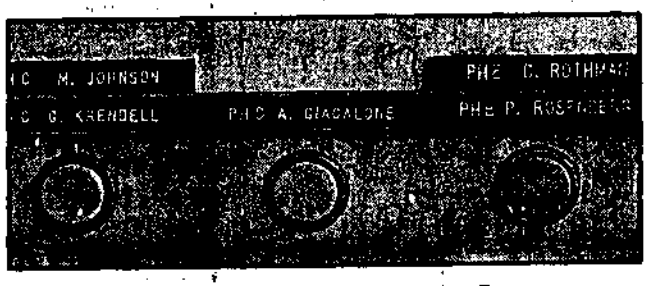


3

Teamsters official Charles (Chuckie) O'Brien, a longtime Hoffa aide, waited for his ride to work every day at the shopping center that includes the Machus Red Fox restaurant, where Hoffa was last seen.

4

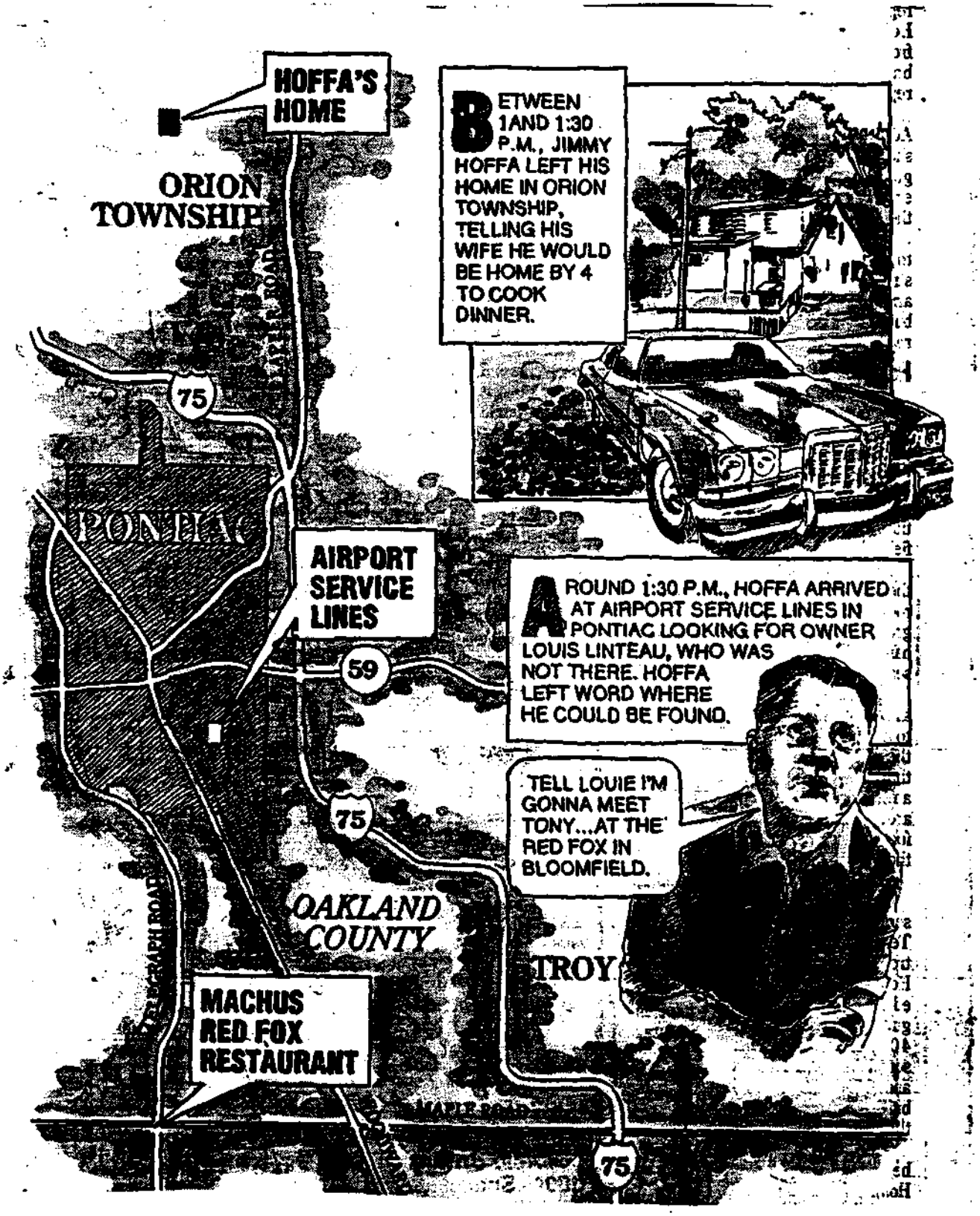
The day Hoffa vanished, Anthony Giacalone spent much of the afternoon at the Southfield Athletic Club, where people took note that he was unusually outgoing. He also spent an hour in the office of a Southfield lawyer.



A local real estate broker, emerging from a long lunch at the Red Fox, encountered a sweaty Hoffa waiting alone in the parking lot. They shook hands and the broker said he could never forget Hoffa's "steel bar" grip.

6

Hoffa told several people that Anthony Giacalone was among the people he was going to meet on the day he vanished, but Giacalone denied he had any such meeting scheduled.


HOFFA'S HOME
ORION TOWNSHIP
BETWEEN 1AND 1:30 P.M., JIMMY HOFFA LEFT HIS HOME IN ORION TOWNSHIP, TELLING HIS WIFE HE WOULD BE HOME BY 4 TO COOK DINNER.
75
PONTIAC
AIRPORT SERVICE LINES
AROUND 1:30 P.M., HOFFA ARRIVED AT AIRPORT SERVICE LINES IN PONTIAC LOOKING FOR OWNER LOUIS LINTEAU, WHO WAS NOT THERE. HOFFA LEFT WORD WHERE HE COULD BE FOUND.
59
TELL LOUIE I'M GONNA MEET TONY...AT THE RED FOX IN BLOOMFIELD.
75
OAKLAND COUNTY
TROY
TELEGRAPH ROAD
MACHUS RED FOX RESTAURANT
MAPLE ROAD
75

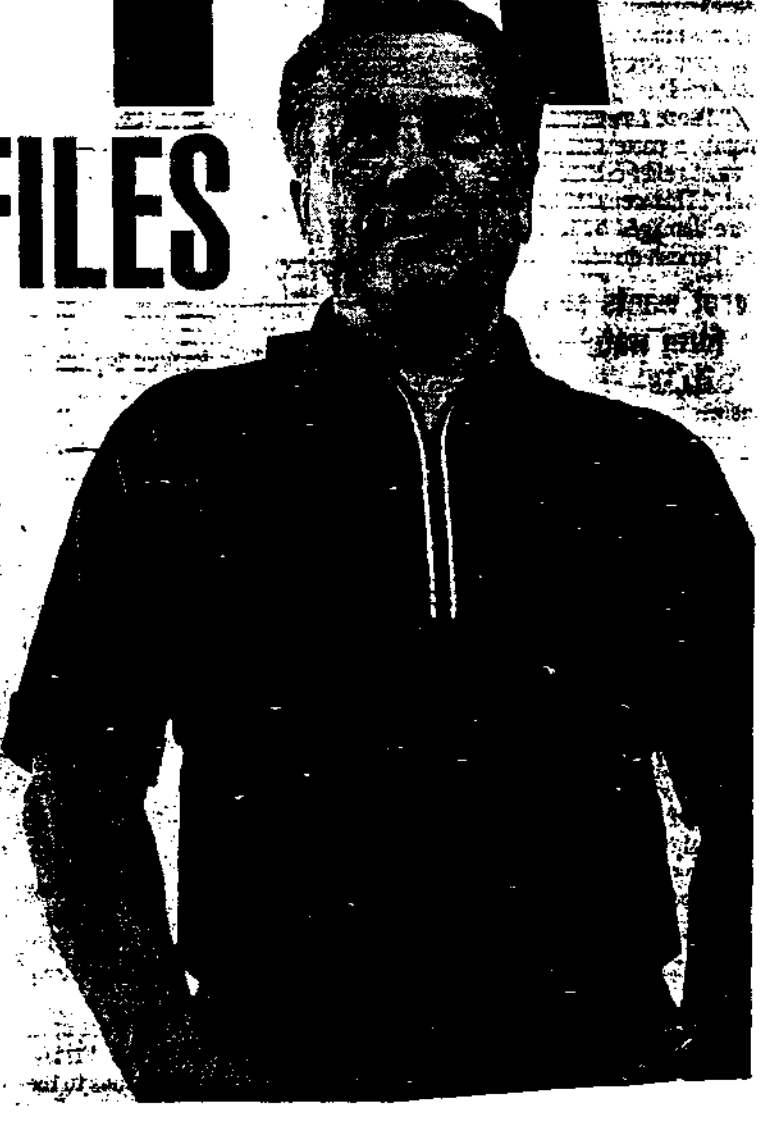

MACOMB COUNTY
AVENUE
AT 2 P.M., HOFFA WAS SEEN AT THE RED FOX BUT DID NOT ENTER.
AT 2:30 HE CALLED HOME (PROBABLY FROM A NEARBY PAY PHONE), AND TOLD HIS WIFE, JOSEPHINE, NO ONE HAD SHOWN UP FOR HIS MEETING.
AROUND 3:30, HOFFA CALLED LINTEAU, GRIPING THAT HE'D BEEN STOOD UP.
8 MILE ROAD
LATE IN THE AFTERNOON, HOFFA LEFT THE PARKING LOT. ONE WITNESS SAID HE GOT INTO A BIG, DARK CAR WITH OTHER MEN. HOFFA WAS NEVER SEEN AGAIN.
WAYNE COUNTY
75
CENTRAL SANITATION SERVICES
HIGHLAND PARK
HAMTRAMCK
DETROIT
TELEGRAPH ROAD
INVESTIGATORS BELIEVE HOFFA WAS OVERPOWERED IN THE CAR, AND THEN KILLED SOMEWHERE IN THE DETROIT AREA. ONE OF THE PLACES SEARCHED FOR THE BODY WAS CENTRAL SANITATION SERVICES IN HAMTRAMCK. FEDERAL AUTHORITIES THINK THE KILLERS WERE FROM NEW JERSEY AND COULD HAVE BEEN OUT OF MICHIGAN BY NIGHTFALL.
MOSES HARRIS/Detroit Free Press

WELCOME
RS'
13
OF NEW

HOFFA

THE SECRET FILES

The mystery changed lives, families and the American labor movement forever.



Jimmy Hoffa is the most famous missing person in America, the stuff of legend, mystery and tragedy.

Authorities are convinced they know what happened to the dynamic labor leader, who was last seen alive on July 30, 1975, in a restaurant parking lot in Bloomfield Township.

This is the story of how those conclusions were reached — as detailed in previously secret law enforcement files obtained by the Free Press, other police records examined for the first time and interviews with many of the people involved. The source material includes the daily updates from Detroit agents to FBI headquarters, transcripts of tapped phone calls, informants' reports and interviews with suspects.

Interest in Hoffa has been rekindled by a biographical movie due out at Christmas. But neither the movie nor the many books about Hoffa afford a full picture of the first days of the mystery, a larger-than-life story of Teamsters, mobsters, secret meetings, frustrating searches and trails to nowhere.

Unheeded warning: 'You don't know who you're bucking'

©Copyright 1992, Detroit Free Press

BY JACK KRESNAK
AND JOE SWICKARD
Free Press Staff Writers

Over lunch in the presidential suite at the tattered Book Cadillac Hotel in downtown Detroit, Coleman Young was talking deal and Jimmy Hoffa was listening.

Two tough guys from the streets of Detroit, they spoke the same language. They shared the bond of having risen against the odds and the establishment to positions of enormous power. Along the way, both had made plenty of friends and some serious enemies, but neither backed away from a battle.

"The mayor always enjoyed people with a wide life experience," said Malcolm Dade, then a mayoral aide, who joined Young and Hoffa for the meeting on July 29, 1975. "He wouldn't have much to say to the queen of England, but Jimmy Hoffa certainly had experience."

Now, the mayor was asking the exiled former president of the Teamsters whether it was possible to swing a loan from the union's pension funds to keep the Book in business. Though his parole banned him from union activities, Hoffa still had clout with some Teamsters people.

Dade recalled that the short, thickset Hoffa projected his usual self-confidence during the meeting and was attentive to the mayor's proposal, but noncommittal.

Hoffa had left a much different impression just before the meeting in a chance encounter with Ricardo Lubienski, at the time a Detroit Common Pleas Court judge.

Searching for a cigarette machine prior to a judges conference, Lubienski was startled to recognize one of the few other people in the Book's lobby.



TONY SPINA/Detroit Free Press

"My God, it's Jimmy Hoffa," Lubienski thought, reminding himself that this supposed dynamo of a man appeared "small, lonely and vulnerable."

The judge and Hoffa shook hands and exchanged a few words. Lubienski reminded Hoffa that the Teamsters had helped his campaign for judge.

Nice guy, Lubienski thought as they parted.

Mentally reconstructing that brief meeting, countless times Lubienski keeps coming back to the eerie image of Hoffa standing isolated in the lobby.

Certainly, James Riddle Hoffa had a lot on his mind that was more important to him than saving the Book. At 62, he was 3½ years out of

See HOFFA, Page 12A

Despite warning, Hoffa was set on regaining power

HOFFA, from Page 1A

prison and determined — with his usual bulldog intensity — to win court clearance for a bid to reclaim the Teamsters presidency.

Toward that end, Hoffa had a crucial meeting on tap for tomorrow, out in Bloomfield Township.

"Pete, you like to breathe, don't you?" Hoffa recently had asked Peter Karagozian, an old union pal. "That's how bad I want to get back in."

Hoffa said he had some scores to settle in the union. Karagozian advised him to get a bodyguard, warning, "You don't know who you're bucking."

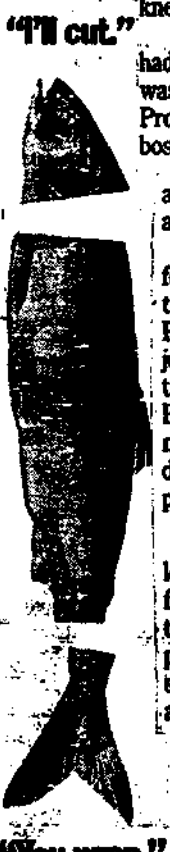
Hoffa shrugged it off: "They haven't got the guts."

About 250 miles away, Detroit labor lawyer James Philip Hoffa, 34-year-old son of the union legend, was enjoying a vacation with his wife and two boys at a cottage on the banks of Boardman River, south of Traverse City. The finicky northern Michigan weather had been good. He was relaxed.

In St. Louis, Hoffa's daughter, Barbara Crancer, also a labor lawyer, was in the middle of one of the most hectic summers she could remember. On top of a crushing work schedule, Crancer's husband, Robert, a steel company executive, was in the hospital, recovering from surgery after a serious car crash. There also were back-to-school things to do for the couple's 12-year-old daughter.

What else is going to come up, Crancer wondered.

On July 30, 1975, Jimmy Hoffa awoke as usual at 6:30 a.m. at his home on Square Lake, a small lake off M-24 between Pontiac and Holly.



Once a summer-only residence in northern Oakland County's cottage country, the place had been refurbished and insulated by Hoffa for year-round living.

At 7:45 a.m., he took a call from the president of a New York City Teamsters local. Although technically no longer a Teamster, Hoffa kept up with union matters and was in regular contact with local leaders.

It was important to keep his network alive for the triumphant return he envisioned. A meeting that afternoon would help clear the way.

Hoffa told his wife, Josephine, he would be gone for a while in the afternoon, but expected to be home by 4 p.m. and would grill steaks for their dinner. After 39 years of marriage, she knew he would not be late.

The meeting, to which Hoffa finally had agreed after several broken dates, was to be a sit-down with Anthony Provenzano, a New Jersey Teamsters boss known to friends as Tony Pro — and known to federal investigators as an associate of the Mafia.

Hoffa and Provenzano had been feuding since they did time together at the federal penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pa. — Hoffa for fraud, conspiracy and jury tampering, Tony Pro for racketeering and extortion. Hoffa blamed Provenzano and his pals in the mob for much of the federal heat that had come down on the Teamsters and their president in the 1960s.

Brothers Anthony and Vito Giacalone — Tony Jack and Billy Jack to friends and the police who regularly tailed them — had lobbied hard for the peace meeting. The Giacalones described themselves as businessmen but authorities regarded both as captains of the Detroit Mafia.

Hoffa expected Tony Jack to be at the meeting, which undoubtedly dominated his thoughts as he puttered in the yard and chatted with Marty Woehl, the 11-year-old boy next door.

Woehl remembered that the conversation ended around 9 a.m. when Hoffa went inside to answer the phone. The boy, who did occasional errands for Hoffa, always had liked his neighbor.

"He treated you like a real person; he gave you respect," Woehl said. "And when you're a kid, you really appreciate that."

Woehl, who still lives in the house next door, said that was the last quiet day in the neighborhood for quite some time.

That morning, Charles Lenton O'Brien — everybody called him Chuckie — was in the basement of Marvin Adell's house on Inkster Road in Bloomfield Township, getting dressed for work.

He donned a white shirt and sport coat. A necktie would be a choker for the 5-foot-8, 200-plus-pound O'Brien on what promised to be a hot day.

O'Brien had been bunking with Adell, a wealthy industrialist and longtime friend, for about a year, since O'Brien's first marriage went on the rocks.

The arrangement was about to end because Chuckie, who worked for the Teamsters at union headquarters on Trumbull near Tiger Stadium in Detroit, had remarried and was transferring to a job with the union in Florida.

Chuckie's new wife, Brenda, had a family business in the South, and he was ready to get out of Detroit — and the long shadow of Jimmy Hoffa.

The son of a Teamster who was killed in the union's violent, formative years — when Hoffa muscled his way to the top — O'Brien had been sponsored by Hoffa into various union jobs. As a young man, he was almost embarrassingly devoted to Hoffa, describing himself as Jimmy's foster son and calling Hoffa "Dad."

But the relationship between Hoffa and O'Brien, 40, had soured. Hoffa believed O'Brien had squandered some of his money while Hoffa was in prison. O'Brien had increasingly allied himself with Frank Fitzsimmons, Hoffa's handpicked successor as union president, and now his rival for power. Fitzsimmons had helped O'Brien get the Flori-

See HOFFA, Page 13A

HOFFA
THE SECRET FILES



HOFFA, from Page 12A

da job.

People in the union's power circle regarded O'Brien as a onetime trusted Hoffa underling who didn't shy away from tough jobs, but lately was more a braggart and gossip, with a growing reputation for embroidering the truth.

Since O'Brien didn't have a car, Adell gave him a lift on weekdays to a shopping center at Maple and Telegraph roads, where Teamster organizer Bobby Holmes Jr. picked him up for the ride into Detroit.

This day, O'Brien was early enough to buy a Free Press and was sitting on a strip of grass reading when Holmes arrived. He was at work by 9:15 a.m., but soon would have a very fishy reason to leave.

Hoffa readies for meeting

Around 11 a.m., Anthony Giacalone — Uncle Tony to Chuckie O'Brien — drove a black-over-peach Cadillac with Florida license plates into the parking lot of the Travelers Tower on Evergreen Road in Southfield. His destination was on the first floor, the Southfield Athletic Club.

Giacalone usually kept to himself at the club, or spent time in the steam room. But today, he was outgoing, greeting other members, shaking hands and signing up for a 12:30 session with masseur Greg Ryan.

Chuckie O'Brien had decided to skip a union meeting he was scheduled to attend in Toronto and spent most of the morning packing up personal things for his upcoming move. He ambled out of his second-floor office around 11:15 a.m. and saw a seven-foot-long cardboard carton sitting on the receptionist's desk.

"A fish," the receptionist said.

A salmon, to be exact, sent frozen by a Seattle Teamsters official to Detroit local leader Bobby Holmes Sr. O'Brien hefted the awkward box and guessed it to weigh about 40 pounds. Sloshing sounds came from inside and O'Brien figured the big fish had been sitting at the airport for a few days.

With little else to do, he offered to run it out to Holmes' Farmington Hills residence before the fish went bad.

A union-owned station wagon used for errands was gone, so O'Brien called his buddy Joey Giacalone, son of Uncle Tony, at his office at Lift All, a heavy machinery firm on West Vernor. Sure, Joey said, I'll pick you up, you drop me back here and then you can use my car to deliver the fish.

Joey Giacalone arrived at the Teamsters office a little before noon in his new, burgundy Mercury Marquis Brougham. O'Brien walked out with the unwieldy carton over his shoulder, irked that it was dripping pink liquid onto his white shirt.

Spreading newspapers to catch the seeping mess, O'Brien and Giacalone put one end of the box in the rear footwell of the big Mercury and angled the other end out the opposite window.

Holmes was away, at the union meeting in Toronto. He was surprised to learn O'Brien was a no-show, asking a companion, "Where the hell is the little bastard?"

Holmes' wife, Vi, was dealing with a cranky infant son when O'Brien arrived at midday with a thawing fish dripping blood all over her clean floors.

O'Brien hustled the box into the kitchen and opened it. Vi Holmes recoiled at the sight of the fish staring up at her.

"I can't stand it," she said.

Don't worry, said O'Brien, grabbing a knife and chopping off the head.

"I'll cut," he said. "You wrap."

They quickly reduced the salmon to a tidy stack of steaks. O'Brien made a couple of calls that no one seemed to answer and then left, taking with him the soggy fish box, and the head and tail.

Jimmy Hoffa ate lunch at home with Josephine, then cleaned up for his meeting. He decided against his usual business suit, donning a blue Ban-Lon shirt with a zipper front, blue pants and blue shoes.

Hoffa wore his trademark, workingman's white socks. Jo said he always wore them because dark socks weren't absorbent enough for his sweaty feet. Even when he was union president, he wore custom-made socks that were black from the ankle up and white cotton on the bottom.

Before leaving home, Hoffa called William Aumock, a business agent with a sign-painters' union local in Hazel Park. Hoffa asked him to find someone to paint a mural at the lakefront house, which everyone still referred to as "the cottage."

Hoffa said he didn't want a gift; he'd pay for the painting.

About 1:15 p.m., Hoffa was piloting his green Pontiac Grand Ville south. He didn't use his seat belt and had inserted a plastic card into the clasp to silence an irritating buzzer.

Before his meeting, Hoffa wanted to stop in Pontiac to see "the Pope."

It was an unusual nickname for Louie Linteau, who, at 61, had a weathered face, crew cut hair and a foul mouth. Friends had hung him with the moniker years ago because he seemed to be everywhere all the time.

Linteau was a former president of Teamsters Local 614 in Pontiac and had been a close friend of Hoffa's for decades. Hoffa had secretly helped him start his new limousine company, Airport Service Lines, in an old garage at 200 N. Paddock in Pontiac.

Hoffa stopped by once in a while to use the weight lifting equipment in an exercise room Linteau set up at the rear of the place.

Airport Service employees said Hoffa was obviously in a hurry when he arrived around 1:30 p.m. They told

him Linteau had left 10 minutes earlier to go to the bank and take an employee, Cynthia Green, to lunch.

Speaking to dispatcher Elmer Reeves — but talking loudly enough for two other employees to hear — Hoffa said he was on his way to a restaurant in a shopping center at Telegraph and Maple, the Machus Red Fox.

Hoffa said he had a meeting there with Tony Giacalone and two other guys. He said their names, but Reeves and the other employees didn't catch them as Hoffa left.

At 2:10 p.m., about the time Tony Giacalone was getting off the massage table, Linteau was on the phone to Local 299 in Detroit, asking whether a secretary for the local had paid out of her own pocket for Chuckie O'Brien's plane ticket to Florida. Linteau knew about O'Brien's past money troubles with Hoffa, former president of Local 299.

And through O'Brien, Linteau also knew Anthony Giacalone. In fact, he had paid Giacalone $135,000 for a Florida condominium. Linteau later would say he had heard that O'Brien was turning to Uncle Tony for money and wonder aloud how O'Brien was going to pay the debt.

A string of no-shows

The parking lot was hot. So was Jimmy Hoffa. His company was late.

At 2:15, Hoffa stalked to the pay phone on a post in front of Damman Hardware, directly behind the Red Fox, and called home.

"Where the hell is Giacalone?" he asked Josephine. She said she hadn't heard from anyone.

A few people recognized him, including a suburban developer who thought it odd to see such a famous figure pacing and fidgeting by himself in a parking lot.

Two Southfield real estate brokers and a client saw Hoffa as they emerged from the Red Fox after a long lunch.

One of the brokers approached him.

"You probably don't remember me," he told Hoffa, "but we met when you spoke at the Lions Club downtown a couple of week ago."

The broker remembered Hoffa was "cordial as all hell" and told him the Lions were "a great bunch of guys!"

They shook hands and parted, and the broker would never forget Hoffa's grip: "Like shaking hands with a steel bar," he said.

While Hoffa perspired, a freshly barbered Tony Giacalone got into the elevator of the Travelers Tower about 3 p.m. and pushed the button for the fourth floor. He walked into Suite 442 for an hour's visit with lawyer Bernard Humphrey.

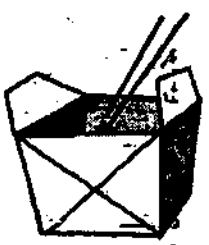
Louis Linteau returned to his office around 3 p.m. and was told that Hoffa had been there. The meeting made sense to Linteau. He knew about the trouble between Provenzano and Hoffa and he knew that the Giacalones had visited Hoffa at home July 12 — the only time they were ever in his house. Hoffa told Linteau that a meeting was arranged.

At 3:27 p.m., Linteau got a call from Hoffa. He was furious.

"That dirty son of a bitch Tony Jocks set this meeting up, and he's an hour and a half late," Hoffa said.

Calm down, Linteau said. Drop by the office on your way home.

Hoffa said he would and Linteau waited for him until 6:30, then left for a meeting at the Pine Knob outdoor theater.



They went out for a Chinese dinner. Back home, O'Brien flipped on the 11 p.m. news. Nothing caught his eye and he went to bed.

Josephine Hoffa had been waiting since 4 p.m., steaks at the ready. But her husband never called. It was so out of character, she was worried, but she wasn't sure whom to call. Jimmy hated people meddling in his business — especially the police.

Linteau was back in his office by 9:40 p.m. Still no word from Hoffa. He called the house.

"Let me talk to Jimmy," Linteau said to Josephine.

"Where is my husband?" she cried.

Linteau tried to reassure her, then hung up and called the Red Fox.

"You mean *the* Jimmy Hoffa?" a hostess said when he asked. There was no paging system, so she quickly walked through the restaurant, checking tables and the bar.

No Hoffa, she said.

Linteau called Anthony Giacalone.

"Have you heard from the Little Guy?" he asked.

"No, why?" Giacalone answered.

"He's not home and he was supposed to meet with you," said Linteau.

Giacalone said he had no such meeting scheduled and had spent most of the day at the Southfield Athletic Club.

Linteau was worried. He called Josephine and told her he would be right over.

Chuckie O'Brien, at the end of his workday, had caught a ride with Joe Valenti, an official of Teamsters Local 214 in Detroit, to a car wash at Grand River and Orchard Lake Road in Farmington, where Adell picked him up.

They went out for a Chinese dinner.

Back home, O'Brien flipped on the television to watch the 11 p.m. news. Nothing caught his attention and he went to bed.

The closing crew left the Red Fox around 1 a.m. A few workers noticed the green Pontiac in the parking lot, but didn't give it much thought.

COMING UP

Sunday in the Free Press Comment section: Jimmy's Gone. The police are called. Young Hoffa seeks answers from Chuckie O'Brien.



FD-350 (Rev. 5-8-81)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Date: 12/20/92
Edition: The Detroit Free Press 5G
Title: HOFFEX
Character: 281A-DE-67821
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Detroit Division

Indexing:

Hoffa's children want FBI to open up

BY JOE SWICKARD
Free Press Staff Writer

The FBI is convinced it knows who killed Jimmy Hoffa, how and why.

But the answers are locked away in cabinets jammed with thousands of documents, reports and memoranda — and the FBI isn't talking about the case agents dubbed "HOFFEX," bureaucratic shorthand for Hoffa-Extortion.

Hoffa's children — Barbara Crancer and James P. Hoffa — believe it is time to open those files.

"There is no reason not to," said Crancer, a labor lawyer when her father vanished and now a circuit judge in St. Louis. "We're ready to deal with whatever's in there."

Crancer filed a Freedom of Information request for the files in 1987, and followed up in 1990 with a lawsuit to open HOFFEX. The Free Press has filed a similar suit seeking access to the documents.

In both cases, the FBI is arguing that the Hoffa case is still an open investigation, with possible arrests and prosecution in jeopardy if its evidence is made public.

Crancer gained one victory when a federal judge ordered the government to compile an index of all its documents so a determination could be made of what might be too sensitive to release and what could reasonably be made public. But the government is in a second stage of appealing that ruling, and Crancer has yet to see such an index.

In the Free Press case, U.S. District Judge George LaPlata in Ann Arbor reviewed docu-

"Even if we do win on principle, I'm sure they are going to fight us about everything ... every page in the file cabinet. I could see it taking 20 or 30 years, but I'm willing to see it through."

ments chosen and submitted to him by the FBI and decided in 1991 that the government was right, the files should remain closed.

LaPlata said that the case was not languishing and that the release of FBI information would allow suspects to destroy evidence, fabricate alibis or intimidate witnesses.

Free Press attorney Herschel Fink said LaPlata "set a terrible precedent" by basing his decision on the FBI's "handpicked documents."

"It's tantamount to allowing the government the power to police itself," he said. The Free Press is appealing the ruling.

Kenneth Walton, formerly the special agent in charge of the Detroit FBI office and now a congressional investigator, said the Hoffa case cannot be viewed in stark black-and-white terms.

"The case had been solved from a law enforcement viewpoint," he said. "But it is not solved from a prosecutorial standpoint."

Walton said that many of the witnesses who talked to the FBI would never repeat their stories in court, and some have since died.

Likewise, others gave solid but secondhand information that does not meet courtroom standards for evidence, he said.

And evidence not withstanding, the files should remain closed to protect FBI informants and methods, Walton said.

Crancer, who inherited her father's bulldog determination, is unimpressed with the arguments and prepared for a long battle.

"Even if we do win on principle, I'm sure they are going to fight us about everything ... every page in the file cabinet," she said. "I could see it taking 20 or 30 years, but I'm willing to see it through.

"Why shouldn't we know what happened to our father?"

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HOFFA
THE SECRET FILES



Paroled from federal prison 3½ years earlier, former Teamsters President Jimmy Hoffa had announced his plans in 1975 to again seek the union leadership. He would run against Frank Fitzsimmons, once his protege.

On July 30, Hoffa left home for an afternoon meeting. He told people the participants would include Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, reputed by federal authorities to be a captain of organized crime in Detroit.

Hoffa was seen waiting outside in the parking lot of the Machus Red Fox restaurant in Bloomfield Township. He made at least two calls from a pay phone outside the hardware store behind the restaurant.



Hoffa was due home at 4 p.m., but he never arrived.

This account of the initial days of the Hoffa investigation is based on law-enforcement files obtained by the Free Press and recent interviews.

SECOND OF THREE PARTS

HOFFA
THE SECRET FILES



THE CAST

Carl Grennier
Chief of detectives of the 60-member Bloomfield Township Police Department, was the first officer in charge of the Hoffa investigation, quickly sensed it was no ordinary missing person investigation.



James Philip Hoffa
Son of the famous union leader; a labor lawyer who was 34 when his father disappeared. Short and solidly built like his dad, he quit the Michigan State football team after two seasons to concentrate on his studies.



Barbara Crancer
Hoffa's oldest child, also a lawyer, lived in St. Louis, where her husband was a steel company executive. She was haunted by a mental image of her father, seated and slumped over, as her flight took off for Michigan.



Frank Fitzsimmons
Hoffa's handpicked choice to succeed him as Teamsters president when Hoffa went to prison; then became Hoffa's rival for control of the union. Made a quiet visit to Detroit five days before Hoffa vanished.

'MAYBE HE TOOK A LITTLE TRIP'



Chuckie O'Brien, whose relationship with Jimmy Hoffa had gone sour by 1975, says the FBI painted him as a fall guy.

Joey Giacalone

Son of Anthony Giacalone. Loaned his new Mercury to Chuckie O'Brien the day Hoffa vanished, so O'Brien could deliver a thawing, dripping salmon to a Teamsters official in Farmington Hills.





Jimmy Hoffa confers with Frank Fitzsimmons during a Teamsters convention in Miami Beach in 1966.



James Hoffa grilled O'Brien about his whereabouts the day that Jimmy Hoffa disappeared.



Chuckie O'Brien, a onetime assistant to Jimmy Hoffa who referred to him as Dad, keeps photos and memorabilia of Hoffa with him in Florida.

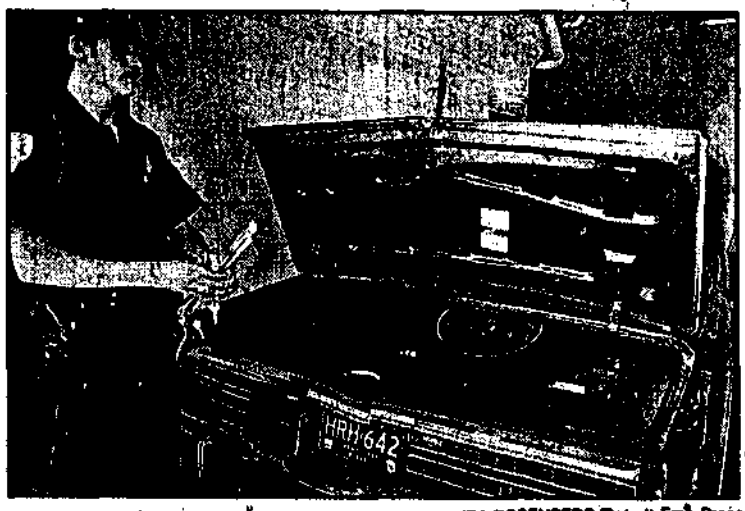


Above: Barbara Crancer holds a photo of her with her father, Jimmy Hoffa.

CHAIN OF EVENTS

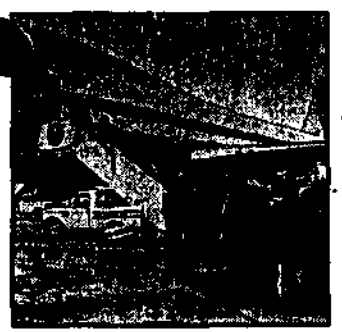
1

The Hoffa children rush by air to Detroit after their mother calls to say Dad never came home the night before. Both know it is way out of character and suspect the worst.



IRA ROSENBERG/Detroit Free Press

A police officer stands at Jimmy Hoffa's impounded car in 1975.



2

Bloomfield Township police tow Hoffa's car to a garage and nervously pop open the trunk, half expecting to find a body. The trunk is empty. State police, Detroit Police mob experts and the FBI arrive to help.

3

Chuckie O'Brien, right, at first won't say where he was the afternoon Hoffa vanished, then tells Hoffa's son that he stopped by the Southfield Athletic Club to see Anthony Giacalone.

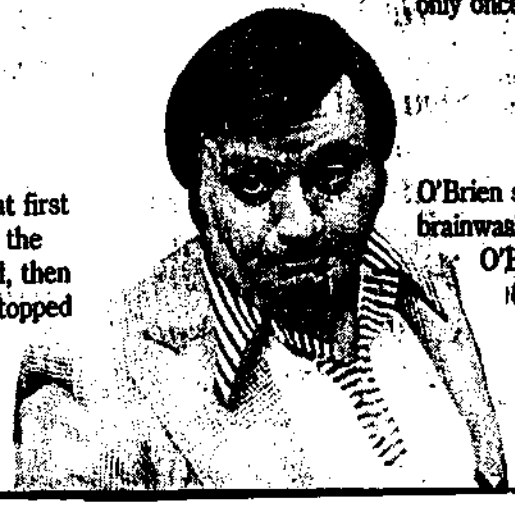
4

A horde of reporters descend on the Hoffa property on Square Lake. The first word from police is "no reason to suspect foul play," but speculation is rampant that Hoffa was kidnapped and killed.



5

Detroit police begin intense surveillance of the Giacalone brothers, watching their Cadillacs come and go and eavesdropping on conversations; Hoffa's name comes up only once.

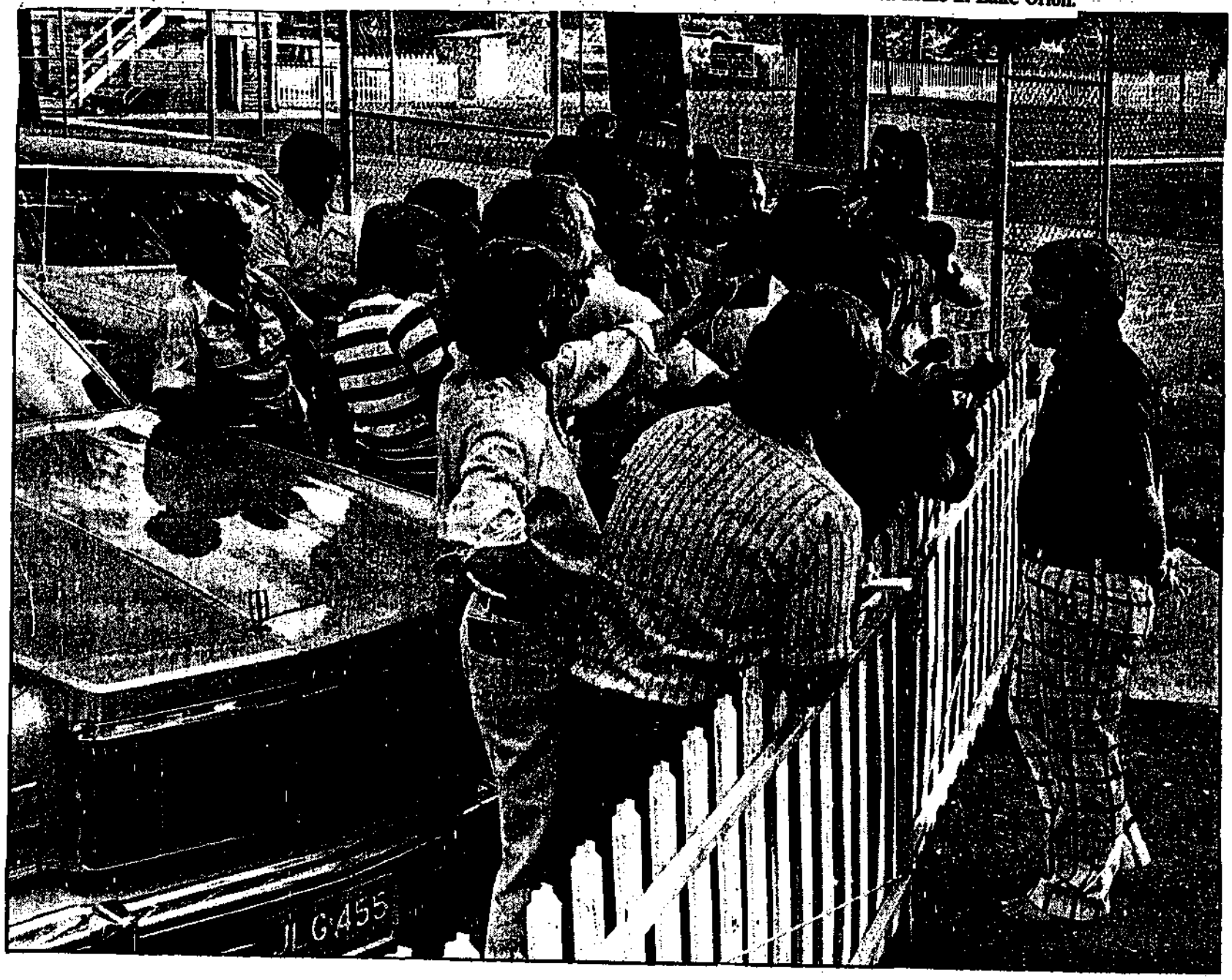


6

O'Brien speculates that the FBI had brainwashed Hoffa's son into believing O'Brien was involved in the disappearance. He says authorities have driven a wedge between the two of them.

Family begins its own search for answers

James Hoffa talks to reporters Aug. 8, 1975, more than a week after the disappearance, at the Hoffa home in Lake Orion.



HOFFA
THE SECRET FILES



BY JACK KRESNAK AND JOE SWICKARD
Free Press Staff Writers
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"What do you mean Dad didn't come home?"

As the sun was rising July 31, 1975, James Hoffa couldn't believe what his mother was telling him over the phone about his father. He knew there had to be real trouble.

Hoffa told his mother he would charter a plane to get home as quickly as possible from his vacation spot near Traverse City. His family could follow by car.

At 7:30 a.m. Missouri time, the telephone rang in Barbara Crancer's St. Louis home.

"Your father didn't come home last night," Josephine Hoffa told her daughter.

"I'll be there," Crancer said.

She got someone to watch her 12-year-old daughter and raced to the hospital bed where her husband was recovering from a car accident.

"Mom's sick," Crancer told him, not wanting to upset her husband. "She needs me." From his hospital bed, Robert Crancer would learn later watching the evening news why his wife had rushed out of town.

As her flight to Detroit rose, Crancer rested her head against the window and closed her eyes. In her mind, she saw Dad wearing a blue, zipper-front shirt, blue slacks and his blue shoes.

Her father was seated, but slumped over.

Crancer pressed her head against the cool glass.

And somehow she knew right then.

"I'll never see him again," she told herself.

At the Hoffa home on Square Lake, Josephine had grown increasingly frantic through the night as she sat waiting with longtime friend Louis Linteau. Five times, a dark, compact car had pulled into the long driveway, backed out and left, leaving Josephine near hysteria.

Linteau had fallen asleep around 3 a.m., but Josephine shook him awake three hours later. Was it time to call the police?

Linteau told her to wait a while longer and drove back to his office in Pontiac, where Jimmy was supposed to stop after Tuesday's meeting at the Machus Red Fox.

There was no sign of him in Pontiac, so Linteau again called Anthony Giacalone, one of the people Hoffa had said he was supposed to meet.

"Did I wake you?" Linteau asked.

"No, I was making coffee," Giacalone said.

"The Little Guy never came home last night," Linteau said.

Giacalone was irked.

"Like I said last night," he told Linteau, "I was at the Southfield Athletic Club."

Any idea where he could be? Linteau asked.

"Maybe he took a little trip," Giacalone said.

By 7:45 a.m., Linteau was in the Red Fox parking lot, looking over a Pontiac that appeared to be Hoffa's.

But the driver's-side door was open and Linteau knew that Hoffa always locked his car. So he opened the glove box and found Hoffa's registration. He noted the plastic card to silence the seat belt buzzer.

Linteau decided it was time to call in the law.

When the missing person report came into Bloomfield Township police, Chief of Detectives Lt. Curt Grennier thought it might be a joke.

But within a few minutes, a patrol officer had confirmed that the empty, unlocked car in the Red Fox lot was owned by Jimmy Hoffa.

Grennier left immediately for the restaurant. He remembers thinking that if this did turn out to be something big, he didn't want any mistakes that could come back to haunt him or his 60-member department.

Grennier also was aware of recent violence involving the Teamsters.

Three weeks earlier, the car of Local 299 Vice President Richard Fitzsimmons — son of international union President Frank Fitzsimmons — was destroyed in a daylight bombing outside Nemo's, a popular saloon near Tiger Stadium.

When they arrived at the Red Fox, Grennier and Capt. James Keller, the department's chief of operations, agreed that Hoffa's car should be towed to the garage at the police station, up Telegraph to near Long Lake Road.

Soon, Hoffa's son gave verbal authorization to pop the trunk.

Grennier and other police who gathered around half expected to find Hoffa's body inside.

But the trunk was empty.

Grennier recalls thinking at that moment that "we aren't going to find him by ourselves." But he had no way of knowing how massive and frustrating the search would become.

Loyalty goes out the window

While Hoffa's car sat at one end of the Red Fox lot on that Thursday morning, Chuckie O'Brien was dropped off as usual at the other end to await his ride to work at Teamsters offices in Detroit.

O'Brien was indebted to Frank Fitzsimmons for rescuing him from a union organizing project on the Alaska pipeline, an assignment insiders said was a payback for blowing money and time in California while supposedly recruiting farm workers.

Now Fitzsimmons had agreed to send O'Brien to a Teamsters office just north of Miami, which pleased his new wife, Brenda Burger, who was from Arkansas and not interested in living in the North.

O'Brien even had regained his union credit cards, which were revoked after his California misadventure.

Born in Kansas City, Mo., and a graduate of a military academy, O'Brien came to Detroit in 1952 and signed on as junior organizer with the Teamsters. Five years later, he was assigned to be an assistant to Hoffa.

In 1967, O'Brien was promoted to an international organizer, but titles meant little. For a long time, O'Brien basically took care of special favors and errands for Hoffa, and began describing himself as the union leader's foster son.

He took credit for burglarizing a reporter's apartment to look for law enforcement files and for pulling a gruesome stunt involving Detroit News Editor Martin Hayden.

Riled by the newspaper's anti-Hoffa stance, O'Brien claimed he was part of the crew that sent Hayden a gift package containing a human head — its eyes propped open with toothpicks — from a medical school cadaver.

O'Brien explained the prank years later with a rueful grin, saying he was young at the time, and "when you're young, you do goofy things."

When Hoffa went to prison in 1967, O'Brien was on the limited visitors list and hired a plane to fly a Happy Birthday banner over the penitentiary every year on Hoffa's birthday, Valentine's Day.

But their relationship started to sour after Hoffa's release in December 1971.

Hoffa believed O'Brien had squandered some of his money and knew O'Brien was increasingly in debt to the Giacalones. Hoffa, who valued loyalty, also saw O'Brien aligning more with Fitzsimmons, whom Hoffa saw as his rival for control of the union.

Hoffa also pulled some old levers to crush O'Brien's dream of running for president of Detroit Local 299, Hoffa's old local and the power base he planned to use to retake the union helm.

There was even word at an April 1975 Teamsters convention that O'Brien was trying to spread a rumor that Hoffa could be cooperating with his old enemy the FBI in an investigation of the union.

It didn't have much credibility coming from O'Brien, who had a reputation for embellishing facts.

Bloomfield Township police, meanwhile, had few clues at all and one of the department's first steps was to put out a call for help. Soon, state police evidence technicians were poring over Hoffa's car.

The FBI technically had no reason to be involved in a local missing-person case, but Special Agent Robert Neumann was sent in to keep an eye on the situation.

Detroit Police sent an organized crime expert.

An interview team of Grennier, Neumann, State Police Detective Sgt. Joseph Koenig, Bloomfield Detective Wally Quarles and Sgt. William Noseworthy of the Detroit Police set out to talk to Linteau at his Pontiac office.



On Aug. 3, young Hoffa's private, unlisted telephone rang. "You're next," someone said, and hung up.

Linteau's secretary had to bring in extra chairs to accommodate all the cops who filled Linteau's small, spare office at the rear of his limousine service.

The Pope, as he was known, was in fine form, relating what he knew of events leading to Hoffa's disappearance, punctuating with profanity and bouncing to his feet to make a point. He was sure that Hoffa had called him at exactly 3:27 p.m., railing that Tony Giacalone was late for their meeting.

Quarles couldn't figure out Linteau.

Here was a crude, foul-mouthed man in a cheap office in the back of a garage talking about famous people such as Jimmy Hoffa as if they were intimate friends.

It didn't make sense.

"How did he get to rub elbows with Hoffa and the rest of these guys?" Quarles asked himself. "We're talking about mob connections and a lot of big names and Louis Linteau, Who the hell is Louis Linteau?"

"You couldn't tell if he was giving us bullshit or nothing but the truth," Grennier said. "He'd never shut up, always going off on tangents."

In the course of his story, Linteau also let drop the name of Charles O'Brien. He told the police that everyone knew O'Brien as Chuckie.

Linteau had left a message for

See HOFFA, Page 5G

O'Brien earlier in the day, and O'Brien called back around 2 p.m., after the police were gone.

"The Old Man is missing," Linteau said. "Where were you? Where were you?"

O'Brien wanted to know where Hoffa's son was. Linteau said the young Hoffa was on his way home, maybe already there. Then he demanded again to know where O'Brien had been all day.

O'Brien called the Pope a "no-good asshole" and hung up.

He reached James Hoffa a short time later at the son's home in Troy.

Although the two were hardly friends, much less family, O'Brien said: "Louie says Dad is missing."

Hoffa asked O'Brien to "cover the house" in Troy for messages, visitors or trouble while he joined his mother at Square Lake.

Sure, said O'Brien, except he had no car.

Once again he called Anthony Giacalone's son, Joey, who was headed north anyway, with tickets for a Chicago concert at Pine Knob. They stopped first at Giacalone's lakeside condominium in St. Clair Shores, where O'Brien chatted with Uncle Tony while Joey showered and changed.

By now the Hoffa story was all over the news, and Chuckie would recall later that Uncle Tony expressed concern about his missing acquaintance.

At the Hoffa house, son James was giving police more insight into "the kinds of dealings" his father was involved in, and why he was certain this was more than a missing person case.

James Hoffa said that on May 15, he hosted a meeting between his father and Vito and Anthony Giacalone in his law office on the 33rd floor of the Guardian Building in downtown Detroit. He said Anthony Giacalone wanted Jimmy Hoffa to make peace with Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano, a New Jersey Teamsters official.

Hoffa said that the Giacalones told his father that Provenzano was openly criticizing and threatening Jimmy Hoffa. He said it was clear his father wanted nothing more to do with Tony Pro and turned thumbs-down on a meeting. Young Hoffa said his father had excluded him from a meeting at the house with the Giacalones two weeks ago.

He said the Giacalones also wanted Jimmy Hoffa to get his hands on documents that were to be used by a federal strike force to obtain a grand jury indictment against Anthony Giacalone in an alleged insurance scam. Jimmy Hoffa said he was unable to help, but they parted on good terms, young Hoffa said.

The detectives left the family with a small tape recorder rigged with a suction cup microphone. The family was instructed to record all telephone calls.

The detectives said they would be in touch and walked out the door — into a horde of reporters and photographers, barely being kept at bay by a friend of the Hoffa family.

The police looked at one another, and nodded to Grennier. It was his case.

The 39-year-old detective squinted into the camera lights and stepped into the evening news for the first of what would become many times.

Grennier said he had "no reason to suspect" foul play, although "we're giving it every consideration — let's put it that way."

Reporters repeatedly asked whom Hoffa was supposed to meet at the Machus Red Fox. Grennier would only say "there's a lot of speculation."

One of the questions was particularly stupid: "Is Mrs. Hoffa upset?"

Grennier can't recall exactly what he said, except that "you give a dumb answer to a dumb question."

Marty Woehl, the boy next door, has never seen anything like it.

"They were there from all over the world — Hong Kong, England, everywhere," he said. "I had my autograph book with me."

The reporters mostly ignored him as he pedaled his bike up and down the two-lane road in front of the Hoffa place, eavesdropping on their chatter.

"I was just a kid," he said. "They treated me like I was a tree."

Today if Hoffa's name comes up, Woehl mentions that he was the famous man's neighbor, but "people don't believe me, so I let it drop."

At the Bloomfield Township Police Station, messages were waiting and telephones were ringing with inquiries from everywhere. And no one had even typed up a missing person report yet.

O'Brien gets a grilling

After the police left, Jim Hoffa kept running the scenario as he knew it over and over in his mind, and kept coming up with questions.

Where was Anthony Giacalone?

Did Provenzano make it to the meeting?

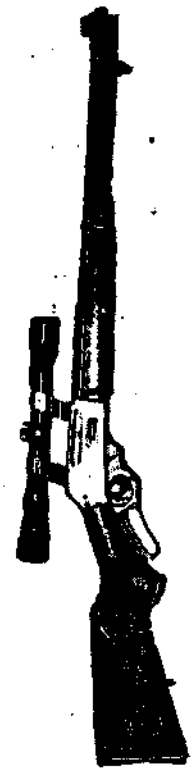
Why would Dad wait around so long?

Was Dad taken somewhere else for the meeting?

Who could get Dad into a car?

Where was Frank Fitzsimmons?

And where the hell had Chuckie O'Brien been Wednesday?



He had all the lights on and a .30-.30 rifle slung across his lap. Nobody was going to pull anything with him around.

Hoffa began making phone calls, trying to account for everyone's movements.

Around 3 a.m. Aug. 2, he called O'Brien, still stationed at Hoffa's house in Troy.

O'Brien said Hoffa's wife and children were asleep; he had all the lights on and a .30-.30 rifle slung across his lap. Nobody, he assured Hoffa, was going to pull anything with him around.

Hoffa told O'Brien to come to the cottage right away. O'Brien balked, saying he didn't want to leave Jim's wife and kids. Hoffa said they'd be all right, especially since another Teamsters official was there, too.

O'Brien got to the cottage about 4 a.m.

Jim Hoffa, the only one awake, began to recount what he knew so far.

O'Brien told him to calm down, reminding him that one of his father's lessons was to never lose your cool in a crisis.

"You're spinning," O'Brien said. "Take your pants off and lay down; you need a rest."

Hoffa told him he was a lawyer and would handle the situation. He made it clear he wanted the truth from O'Brien.

He said he knew O'Brien skipped out on a union business trip to Toronto the day of the meeting, and knew his father would never get into a car with someone he didn't trust.

"You didn't go to Toronto like you were supposed to, Chuckie? Why didn't you go? Where were you, Chuckie?" he asked.

O'Brien told him about cleaning out his desk and delivering the fish.

Afterward, he said he had stopped by the Southfield Athletic Club to see Uncle Tony.

O'Brien said he felt himself "reaching the boiling point" under Hoffa's interrogation. He left around 4:45 a.m.

The two men have not seen each other since.

Snooping turns up little

On the morning of Aug. 1, an undercover team of Detroit police officers set up surveillance of the Giacalone brothers, watching for anything that might be a clue to the Hoffa case.

They were parked on a winding, shaded street just off Lake St. Clair in Grosse Pointe Shores, watching the home of Vito Giacalone.

In the driveway were two Cadillacs — Vito's black one and Tony's peach-and-black model — plus a white Lincoln Continental driven by their old friend Silverio (Sal) Vitello, a figure in Greektown gambling circles.

After an hour, the Giacalones and Vitello all left in the Lincoln for Sterling Heights, where they dropped in on Stanley Sobo, a dry cleaner with a long police record that included a conviction for bombing a competitor.

After a quick visit, the Lincoln headed west to the Troy Hilton, where the trio entered the coffee shop. Undercover officers Cynthia Wisniewski and Sgt. Dale Heberly followed them, arm in arm, and took the next booth.

Carefully pulling out a small notebook and pencil so she wouldn't be noticed, Wisniewski jotted down the snatches of conversation she could overhear.

Vitello brought up Hoffa's name, saying a "mutual friend" had shown him a box from Alaska that Hoffa wanted.

"But he's not going to get it," Vitello said.

For the next nine days Detroit police ran a painstaking surveillance of the Giacalones, watching them get their cars washed, go to the Southfield Athletic Club, drive to restaurants for lunch and dinner, and turn away reporters.

Once, on the evening of Aug. 9, surveillance officers saw Anthony Giacalone yell obscenities at a television news crew that had filmed him with his wife leaving their apartment at 24000 E. Jefferson in St. Clair Shores. Swearing loudly, Giacalone grabbed the camera from the news crew and tore out the film.

But that brief conversation overheard by Wisniewski in the coffee shop — and never really understood — was as close as the police ever got to the Giacalones in the Hoffa investigation.

A fee out of this world

Chuckie O'Brien's hasty exit from the Hoffa house left him feeling defensive. He wailed to anyone who would listen how he was wounded by accusations he could have anything to do with hurting the man he called Dad.

He believes such seeds were planted by Linteau.

"That Louie," O'Brien says, "a real wire — jumping around all the time, calling here and calling there.

"The Old Man always said if anything happens, sit tight, wait and see what's going on. That, they didn't do," O'Brien said in a recent interview. "Young Jimmy was listening to that screwy Louie Linteau. ... He was brainwashed by the FBI. I became the enemy. They worked on Jimmy Jr.'s mind — the deceit they put between us, the bitterness."

Young Hoffa didn't believe O'Brien's protests then and still dismisses them.

"He's a pathological liar. It's a sickness," said Barbara Crancer, James Hoffa's sister.

James Hoffa remembers that on Aug. 3, his private, unlisted telephone rang and someone said "you're next," then hung up. Hoffa told the FBI it sounded like O'Brien.

The phone at the Roma house continued to ring night and day. James Hoffa turned off the tape recorder when he recognized Frank Fitzsimmons on the line, but Hoffa's former protege shed no light on the mystery, only asking whether there was anything he could do.

The family quickly had another phone line installed so they could dial out without missing an incoming call that might be important.

James Hoffa talked to his sister about calling Peter Hurkos, a Dutch housepainter who had become a famous psychic. When they learned that Hurkos would command a $15,000 fee, the children decided against it.

On Aug. 8, Barbara Crancer got a call from Josephine Provenzano, 19-year-old daughter of Tony Pro in New Jersey, and a friend of the Hoffa children.

Crancer asked about Josephine's father. The teenager said he was in the backyard, but he never came to the phone.

"We want our dad back," Crancer told Josephine.



COMING UP

Monday in the Free Press: Leads, tips, wild goose chases and the return of Chuckie.

In the Red Fox lot, Hoffa got into Joey Giacalone's car, driven by Chuckie O'Brien, who had borrowed it earlier to deliver a fish.

Hoffa believed he would be taken to a meeting with Anthony Provenzano and Anthony Giacalone to smooth out problems between Hoffa and Tony Pro.

In reality, it was a setup for an assassination carried out by New Jersey Teamsters close to Provenzano — Thomas Andretta and the Briguglio brothers, Gabriel and Salvatore.

The mob wanted to keep Hoffa from getting back in the union and clamping down on the mob's easy access to union pension funds during the presidency of Frank Fitzsimmons.

The killing was probably quick, and the body most likely destroyed not far from the murder site, somewhere in the Detroit area.

Investigators and others involved in the case say the murder probably was authorized at the highest levels of organized crime, which did not foresee all the pressure it would generate on its operations.

The HOFFEX theory was somewhat substantiated by later discoveries: records of telephone calls from Provenzano's Teamsters local to O'Brien's home number several weeks before Hoffa vanished.

The same number was found on a slip of paper at the home of Salvatore Briguglio in Paramus, N.J., when FBI agents arrived to search it the day after he was slain.

"Don't you guys ever quit?" Briguglio's son asked when the family's mourning was disrupted by the FBI search.

Charles (Chuckie) O'Brien has his own theory about Hoffa: The government killed him as an excuse to delve into the powerful Teamsters and left Chuckie to be the fall guy.

"It got so crazy," said O'Brien, who spent 10 months in prison in 1979 for a labor law violation and falsifying a loan application. "People saying they saw this and people saying they saw that. It just made me crazy.

"There's no way there was a meeting with Tony Giacalone or Tony Provenzano, and I don't care what anybody says. It just never happened that way. ... I'd have to be an insane maniac to use Joey's car and take Mr. Hoffa."

Although many of the key figures have died or gone to prison for various crimes, the FBI still regards the Hoffa case as open. The bureau used the case as a springboard for a series of other investigations that struck deep into organized crime and led to government control of the Teamsters.

"Hoffa was never found, but you have to balance the fact that the massive resources devoted to it paid off in the end," said Koenig, the top state police member of the Hoffa investigative team. "There were a number of cases ... where there were convictions and people put in jail, putting really kind of a damper on mob activity in the Detroit area for many years."

That doesn't make James Hoffa feel much better about his father's fate.

"What amazes me with all the informants the FBI has, all the supposedly bad guys who have turned over over the years, that they've never been able to come up with anyone who has said, 'Oh, by the way, let me tell you about Mr. Hoffa,' " he said.

"And now after 17 years, I really don't think they're going to solve it. It makes me real sad that's not going to happen."

Central Sanitation was destroyed by fire in 1978. Part of its property is now occupied by the new Wayne County Jail in Hamtramck.

Everybody searches a field

On Sept. 26, 1975, some reporters covering the Hoffa disappearance were told about a tremendous break coming the next day — so secret even the FBI didn't know.

Seems a one-time FBI informant from California with loose Teamsters connections had told U.S. Labor Department investigators and U.S. Sen. Henry (Scoop) Jackson, D-Wash., that Hoffa's body was buried in a field in Waterford Township.

Jackson decided to bypass the FBI with his information, relaying it instead to Michigan Gov. William Milliken, the state police and Attorney General Frank Kelley. Plans were made to search the field on Sept. 27, a Saturday, and, of course, word leaked out, but nobody knew how far.

Ralph Orr, Free Press labor writer at the time, recalled that the newspaper got one of the leaks and thought it had the story to itself. Editors convened a midnight meeting in the newsroom to parcel out assignments for what surely would be the scoop of the century.

Shortly before dawn, Free Press reporters reached the rendezvous point where state police detectives had gathered. So did dozens of other reporters and camera crews — enough to form a strange caravan en route to the field, complete with backhoes.

Quarles, the Bloomfield detective, made sure he was clad for the expedition from head to toe, lest poison ivy be lurking.

Attorney General Kelley insisted on being present for the search and Michigan State Police Detective Sgt. Joseph Koenig picked him up at Oakland Pontiac Airport. Kelley arrived at 5 a.m. wearing tennis clothes and carrying a racket.

Someone from the state police decided to call Assistant Oakland County Prosecutor Richard Thompson, since if anything was found, the local office would probably handle criminal charges. Thompson called his boss, L. Brooks Patterson, to let him know Frank Kelley was working his turf.

"Although we weren't officially invited," Thompson said, "we decided to go. . . . When we got there, it was like a big circus. This huge field was cordoned off, helicopters from the TV stations were flying all over, people were selling hot dogs and popcorn along the side of the road."

The circus went on for two days, and private citizens kept looking afterward, especially with Hoffa's family posting a $200,000 reward for information.

But the field never yielded anything except dirt.

In October, Koenig, and FBI agents Jim Esposito and Bob Garrity took off after another tip: Hoffa's body was at the bottom of a swimming pool behind a Bloomfield Hills mansion near Turtle Lake.

The owner of the mansion couldn't be reached to give police permission to cross his property, so the three investigators borrowed a canoe and paddled across a swamp to the site described by the tipster.

The pool house had been abandoned years before, and the pool inside was empty. The cops poked around for a few minutes, but their hopes sank and they began paddling back.

On the way, their borrowed canoe sprung a leak and sank, too. In their suits, the investigators sloshed their way back to dry land.

The weeks were beginning to pile into months. The investigators plodded on, but they also realized that crimes of violence are usually solved within days — or not at all. And they didn't even have a body yet.

1,000 talks with lawyer

Ralph Picardo, a former Teamster in Anthony Provenzano's New Jersey Local 560, contacted federal agents on Nov. 5 from the East coast prison where he was serving a murder sentence.

Picardo said he had been visited by two of his many mutual friends with Provenzano, brothers Stephen and Thomas Andretta. He said Stephen had indirectly let slip that Tony Pro's outfit was involved in Hoffa's slaying, saying he had remained in New Jersey to provide Provenzano's card-playing alibi.

Based on Picardo's story, the FBI rushed after subpoenas to get the Andrettas and two of Provenzano's other top associates, brothers Gabriel and Salvatore (Sally Bugs) Briguglio, to Detroit for police lineups and grand jury questioning.

Stephen Andretta astounded court officials by leaving the grand jury room 1,000 times to confer with his lawyer, William Bufalino Sr. Bufalino handed out autographed footballs around the courthouse to mark the 1,000th time.

Andretta was finally jailed for contempt when he refused to testify even after being given immunity from prosecution. But he kept silent.

State Police Detective Koenig said he passed the time during a long wait prior to lineups at the Oakland County Jail by playing chess with Thompson, the assistant Oakland prosecutor.

He said he kept one eye on the four suspects from New Jersey, and was drawn repeatedly to the short, squat Salvatore Briguglio.

"You could see that his brain was in turmoil and he was having difficulty coping with it," Koenig said. "We all agreed he'd be the one to focus on."

But with no hard evidence, they never got much of a chance.

On March 21, 1978, Sally Bugs was shot to death by two hooded gunmen at a restaurant in New York's Little Italy.

There was a flicker of hope about a case against Stephen Andretta in January 1976, when a previously silent witness told Bloomfield Township police he was sure he had seen Andretta at the Red Fox restaurant almost a month to the day before Hoffa vanished from its parking lot.

During his standoff with the grand jury, Andretta said he had never been in Michigan before. The witness said he recognized Andretta from news accounts and was certain Andretta was lying.

A businessman who did not want his name known, the witness said he was parked in an isolated section of the same lot on June 26, 1975, doing some paperwork, when a Lincoln or Cadillac, black over gray, parked in front of him.

The witness said a man who looked like Andretta walked from the car to the restaurant and back. He said the man noticed him in his car and walked over.

"What are you doing?" he asked the businessman.

"Don't I know you?" the businessman replied.

"No, I don't think we ever met," the man said, then glanced at the businessman's paperwork and walked back to his car.

It was intriguing information, but useless unless the businessman was willing to testify before a a grand jury. He never did.

Another lead to nowhere.

The most popular solution

Based on information that was good, but not good enough, the FBI eventually refined its theory of the case, as outlined in a January 1976 memo called HOFFEX. It remains the most agreed-upon scenario of what happened to Jimmy Hoffa:

FD-350 (Rev. 5-8-81)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)
The Detroit Free Press
1A
Date: 12/21/92
Edition:

Title: HOFFEX

Character: 281A-DE-67821
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Detroit

Indexing:

HOFFA
THE SECRET FILES



Jimmy Hoffa was missing, and as the summer of 1975 dragged into its dog days, his family and police were convinced that the former union leader, once among the most powerful men in America, was dead, probably murdered.

Bent on regaining power in the volatile Teamsters union, Hoffa had left his Lake Orion home July 30 for an afternoon meeting and never returned.

Police and Hoffa's family were certain the Mafia was involved. Hoffa, after all, had encountered some shady characters in his rise to the top — people who didn't want him back in the game.

In the Detroit area, Hoffa was the No. 1 topic. If killers could do it in broad daylight to someone as famous as Jimmy Hoffa, folks said, they could do it to anyone, anywhere, anytime.

Everybody had a theory. But nobody who might really know was talking.

Last of three parts.

INSIDE

The trail grows colder as FBI agents come up empty in a swamp, a waste-disposal plant and grand jury rooms.

FBI/

THE CAST

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Josephine Hoffa

fell ill about three weeks after the disappearance. The missing union leader's wife died in 1980, at age 62.



James P. Hoffa

is 51 and a Detroit labor lawyer. Jimmy Hoffa's son has recently considered running for the Teamsters presidency, if he can fulfill union membership requirements.



Barbara Crancer

is 54 and a lawyer, recently appointed a circuit judge in St. Louis. She continues to battle for release of the FBI files on her father.

Chuckie O'Brien

is 57 and semiretired in Boca Raton, Fla., after serving federal prison terms for making a false loan application and accepting an improper gift from an auto dealer. The man who once considered himself Hoffa's foster son works part-time for a friend's landscaping service and as a volunteer organizing Red Cross golf benefits.



Louis (The Pope) Linteau

He was found dead of natura causes in 1978 at age 64 i his office and spartan living quarters at the rear of his limousine service in Pontiac



Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano

He died in prison at age 71 in 1988 while serving time for labor racketeering and for murder in the 1961 death of Anthony Castellito, secretary-treasurer of Loca 560, whose body never was found.

Vito (Billy Jack) Giacalone

He served time in prison fo a 1977 conviction for possession of a concealed weapon. He's 69 and under indictment for income tax evasion.

Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone

He served time in prison for a 1976 income tax evasion conviction and a 1979 extortion conviction. Now 73, he maintains homes in Florida and the Detroit area and is recovering from open-heart surgery.

Salvatore (Sally Bugs) Briguglio

Considered a suspect in the Hoffa case, he was indicted in the Castellito killing, then shot to death at age 45 by two hooded gunmen outside a restaurant in New York's Little Italy on March 21, 1978.

Gabriel (Gabe) Briguglio

A suspect in the Hoffa case, he was convicted of labor racketeering in 1979. He's now 53 and driving a truck in New Jersey.

Thomas Andretta

A Hoffa suspect, he was convicted of labor racketeering in 1979. He's now 55 and a forklift operator in Las Vegas.

Frank Fitzsimmons

Hoffa's successor as president of the Teamsters died in office in 1981.

Lt. Curt Grennier

He retired from Bloomfield Township police in 1988. Now 57, he lives in northern Michigan.

Detective Wally Quarles

He is 53 and handles special assignments, chief's office, Bloomfield Township Police Department.

Joseph Koenig

He is 46 and in 1987 was promoted to inspector, assistant commander of Michigan State Police Criminal Investigation Division.

Bob Neumann

He is an FBI agent in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Bob Garrity

He is an FBI agent in Pittsburgh, Fla.

CHAIN OF EVENTS



1978 file photo

The FBI searched a Hamtramck sanitation plant for Hoffa's remains.

1

Police pursued tips that Hoffa's body was in a cornfield near Jackson, a gravel pit near Milford, a field in Waterford Township and an empty pool house behind a Bloomfield Hills mansion. The FBI searched a Hamtramck waste disposal facility where the body supposedly was destroyed.

2

One of the FBI's first official communiques about the Hoffa disappearance recounted an interview with Hoffa's son in which James P. Hoffa asserted that Chuckie O'Brien had to be involved in Hoffa's disappearance.

3

The FBI made several attempts to duplicate the movements of O'Brien on the day Hoffa vanished, using the times and places O'Brien gave agents. But the re-creations always finished with 60-90 minutes to spare.

4

In its first working theory of the case, the FBI declared that Hoffa probably thought he was being taken to the Southfield Athletic Club for a meeting when "a hit man was waiting at a select spot and either shot or strangled Hoffa."



1975 file photo

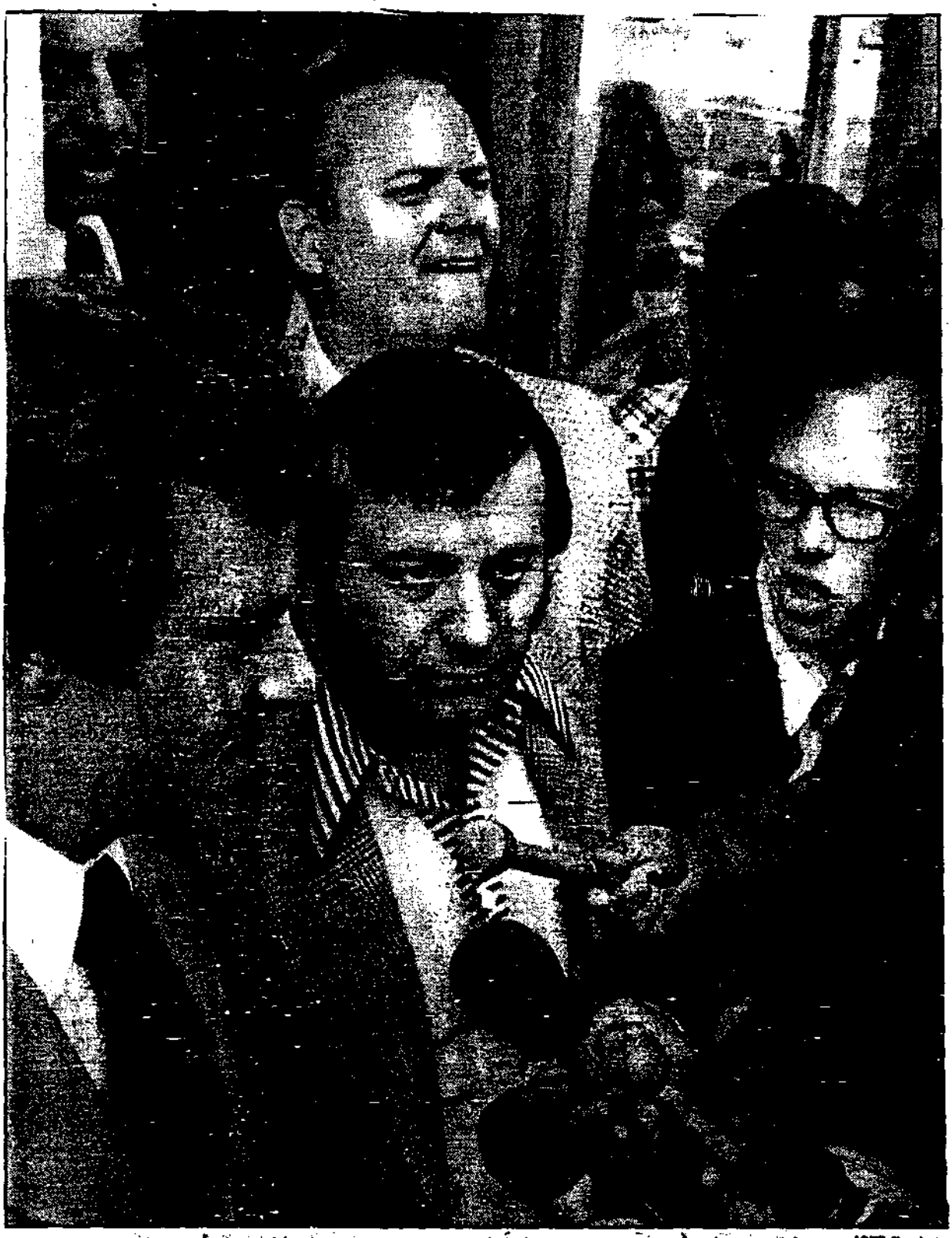
Cops sweep a Michigan field.

5

Police and FBI agents spent hours with a secret informant who swore he had seen Hoffa get into a maroon car driven by O'Brien. Police were crestfallen when the informant finally said his vision came from God.

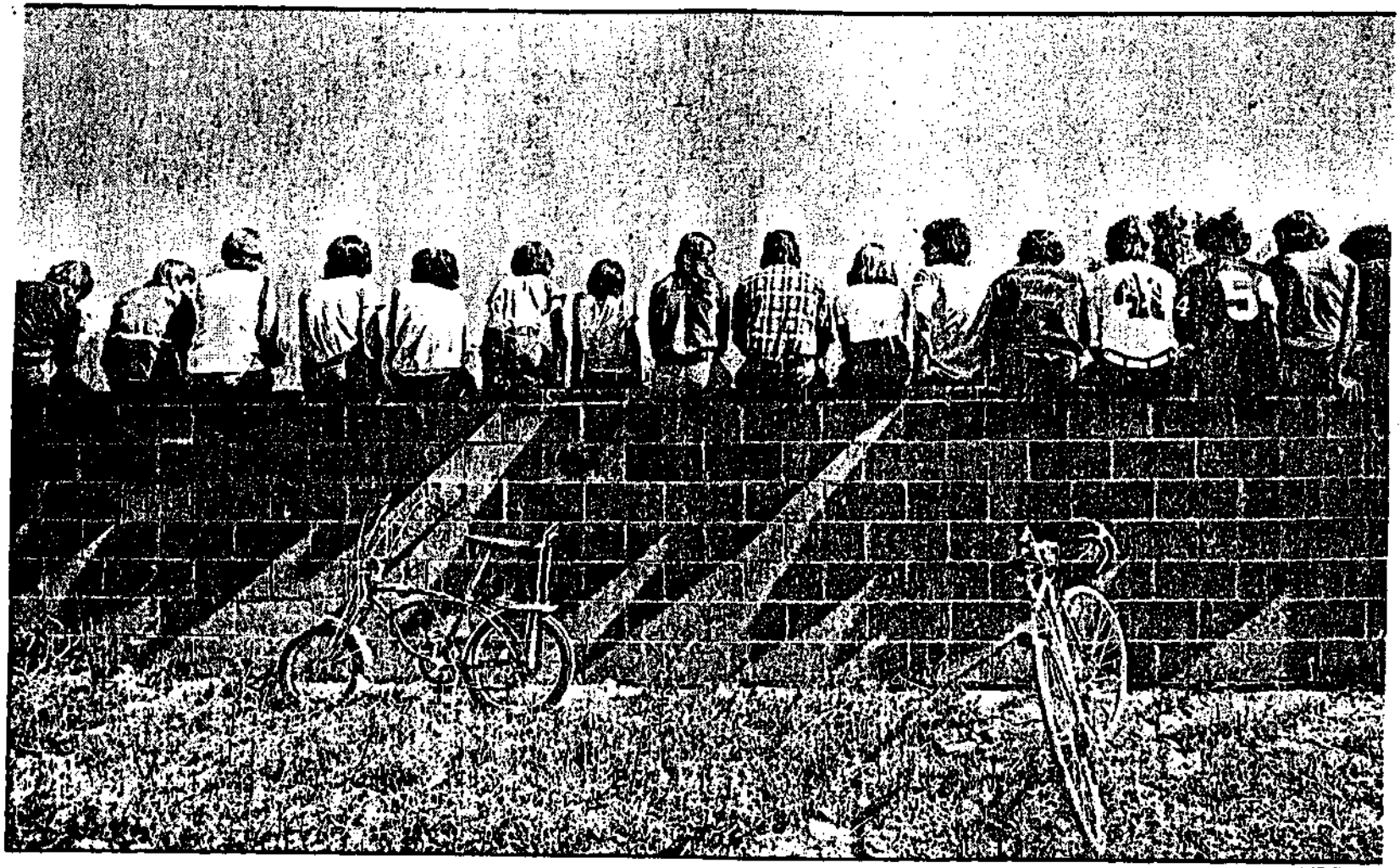
6

O'Brien's private, unlisted telephone number was found in the home of Salvatore Briguglio, one of the New Jersey mob figures suspected of killing Hoffa, in an FBI search on March 22, 1978 — the day after Briguglio was shot to death in New York.



1975 file photo

Chuckie O'Brien, center, stands silently as his lawyer answers questions about Jimmy Hoffa's disappearance at Teamsters headquarters in Detroit. Investigators left the building with the feeling O'Brien wasn't telling all.



1975 file phot

Spectators watch authorities search for Hoffa's body in September 1975. Many investigators believe the remains are in the Detroit area.



File photo

A $200,000 reward prompted residents to search, too. These women found water, but no body.

THE BODY

IT PROBABLY NEVER LEFT

The lack of hard evidence has left room for theories to abound about what really happened to Jimmy Hoffa.

Even among investigators, there is little agreement on details of Hoffa's death and the disposition of his body.

Hoffa was declared legally dead on Dec. 9, 1982, seven years and five months after he vanished.

The prevailing law enforcement theory is that Hoffa got into a car with someone he trusted, then was killed. Some investigators believe he was killed in the car, others that he was taken to a nearby location and killed.

Knowing Hoffa's fearless nature and strength — he once rushed and overpowered a man who pulled a gun in a Tennessee courtroom — some investigators think he must have been rendered quickly unconscious in the car, possibly with chloroform.

The killers probably disposed of Hoffa's body right away, in the Detroit area. There was no need to haul it — as some informants have claimed — to a landfill or Giants Stadium in New Jersey, or out to the middle of Lake Michigan.

He's also been said to be buried at the end of dirt road in the Arctic Circle and under or in just about every freeway, bridge or major building erected in southeast Michigan since 1975.

The FBI focused on Central Sanitation Services in Hamtramck. Informants said the giant shredders, compactors and incinerators there were used on 10 organized crime victims.

A search with scent dogs was fruitless. The plant burned in 1978; the site is home to the new Wayne County Jail.

By Joe Swickard



WILLIAM DEKAY/Detroit Free Press

Wally Quarles, holding the Hoffa file, recalls bad tips and poison ivy.

ANOTHER LEAD TO NOWHERE

BY JACK KRESNAK AND JOE SWICKARD
Free Press Staff Writers
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Wally Quarles was hot, tired, frustrated and itching like mad.

The Bloomfield Township Police detective had just spent eight hours on a scorching Saturday rooting around a cornfield and woods south of Jackson, searching for the body of Jimmy Hoffa.

Quarles had been working the Hoffa case for three days with virtually no sleep when he got the tip around 1 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, about the cornfield. The caller wouldn't give a name, but he sounded good, he knew things, and his directions were precise.

So Quarles, desperate for a lead, had headed west at first light and assembled a posse of a dozen cops to help.

But it had been a totally wasted day — at a time when the beleaguered Bloomfield Township department didn't have a day to waste on the biggest case in its history.

On top of it all, Quarles had gotten poison ivy and was facing a two-hour trip home with painfully irritated hands, arms and legs.



"That was the most miserable ride of my life," the detective said. Even with medication, it was a week before Quarles' suffering eased.

That first weekend after his father vanished, Jimmy Hoffa's son James was feeling sick, too.

Increasingly, he was convinced that Chuckie O'Brien, the Teamster his father had once treated like a son, was involved in what probably was the murder of Jimmy Hoffa. No matter how much leeway he allowed, the young Hoffa couldn't account for O'Brien's time on the Wednesday afternoon Hoffa's father disappeared from the parking lot of the Machus Red Fox restaurant at Maple and Telegraph roads.

O'Brien and young Hoffa had parted on bad terms before dawn Friday when Hoffa refused to stop grilling O'Brien about his whereabouts on the day in question. O'Brien had promised, though, to begin some groundwork for his own investigation of the mystery.

O'Brien had once been a special assistant to Jimmy Hoffa, the union leader's right-hand man for whatever needed doing. But now, his reputation was becoming that of a loudmouth, gossip and hanger-on.

O'Brien was then way down the list of people police wanted to interview about Hoffa. Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, the reputed

See HOFFA, Page 5A

FBI agents, police follow leads to nowhere

HOFFA, from Page 1A

organized crime captain Hoffa said he was going to meet the day he vanished, was still at the top.

In fact, while police sweated and young Hoffa fretted on that Saturday, O'Brien and Giacalone, the man he called Uncle Tony, were in the cool confines of the barbershop at the Southfield Athletic Club.

Jeffrey Schultz, the club's executive vice president, said he was surprised to see Giacalone show up that day, because of all the publicity linking him to Hoffa.

But Giacalone told Schultz he was "not about to hide my head in a hole because of some lousy news stories."

O'Brien left the club just ahead of Giacalone and noticed Uncle Tony's "security" — the undercover police who had been tailing him for two days.

That night, O'Brien attended the wedding of his friend Bobby Adell, the former Detroit fire commissioner whose wealthy brother Marvin had been letting O'Brien live in his basement since O'Brien's divorce. O'Brien stayed at the wedding reception until 3 a.m. but was up at 7:30 to catch a ride to Metro Airport from Hymie Cooper, an employee of Marvin Adell.

O'Brien was getting ready to kiss Detroit good-bye and take a Teamsters job near Miami arranged for him by Frank Fitzsimmons, the union president who had succeeded Hoffa and then drawn Hoffa's public wrath for the way he ran the nation's largest labor organization.

During the ride, O'Brien looked out the back window of Cooper's car and said, "I'll bet they're following me."

But nobody was.

The FBI takes over

Nothing was going right for the local and state police trying to crack the case.

A tape recorder police had given the Hoffa family to record all their telephone calls kept eating the tapes. Finally a detective went out and bought a new Sony.

But Sunday at 6:30 p.m. came good news.

The FBI called and announced they were assuming jurisdiction.

Previously barred from taking on a purely local missing person case, the FBI now said communications had been received demanding a ransom for Hoffa and implying he had been taken across state lines. That was enough to make a federal case of it — and bring to bear the FBI's massive, nationwide resources and expertise, the same force that spent a decade gathering the evidence that sent Jimmy Hoffa to prison for almost five years.

The communications were never fully explained, but Bloomfield Township police were too relieved to ask many questions.

Within the hour, FBI agent Bob Neumann, who had been informally advising the local police, and agents Bob Garrity and Mort Nichol were at the Hoffa cottage, reinterviewing family members.

James Hoffa, a near match for his father in intensity, immediately told the agents that the family considered Chuckie O'Brien the "prime suspect." He said O'Brien had stolen money from his father, thrown in with the Giacalones to extricate himself from serious personal financial problems and had shunned Jimmy Hoffa's overtures at reconciliation.

In the spare language of the bureau's internal communication, an agent sent a report to FBI headquarters in Washington:

"Detroit has determined that Giacalones were aware of O'Brien's financial plight . . . and insured commitment of O'Brien by furnishing him with the financing he needed.

"It is the belief of James P. Hoffa that O'Brien was instrumental and a direct participant in disappearance of Hoffa, and planning of events leading up to disappearance."

Agents also were given a note written by Hoffa that seemed to be his itinerary for Wednesday, July 30: "TG 2:30 Wed 14 Mile Tel Fox Rest Maple Road."

On Sunday morning, Aug. 3, other agents arrived at the Hoffa cottage to install equipment to monitor all calls. One agent was finishing a connection when he tapped into a conversation of Hoffa's daughter, Barbara Crancer.

"No, I'm very surprised," she was saying about the G-men who had dogged her father for years. "Actually, they're very nice."

They were also very intense.

A Southfield real estate broker who had shaken Hoffa's hand in the Red Fox lot was visited at least nine times by the FBI in the first few weeks of the investigation. He said news accounts of Mafia involvement terrified him and he insists to this day on anonymity.

"I was afraid to turn the ignition on my car," he said. "It really got to me."

While the heat was on in Detroit, Chuckie O'Brien was in West Memphis, Ark., enjoying a brief reunion with his new bride. When federal investigators reached him, O'Brien agreed to talk, but wanted to meet on friendly turf.

So, a meeting was arranged for the afternoon of Aug. 6 at Teamsters headquarters on Trumbull in Detroit.

There, for the first time, investigators heard Chuckie's fish story and about the borrowing of Joey Giacalone's car. O'Brien also revealed that after dropping off a salmon sent as a gift to Teamsters official Bobby Holmes, he had stopped by the Southfield Athletic Club to see Anthony Giacalone.

O'Brien said he stayed just briefly with Uncle Tony, leaving by 3 p.m. to beat rush hour traffic.

Agents were intrigued as O'Brien went on to mention his visit to Giacalone's condominium the day after Hoffa vanished, a dinner the next evening with the Giacalone family at the St. Clair Inn, and his Saturday visit with Uncle Tony back at the club.

How could Chuckie so nonchalantly socialize with a man publicly implicated in the Hoffa case?

"It was personal time," O'Brien would explain years later. "We were almost family."

He said "Dad and Uncle Tony" — as O'Brien referred to Hoffa and Anthony Giacalone — would never meet anyplace so public as the Red Fox. For two such well-known figures, "it'd be like meeting on television on the Channel 7 News," he said.

O'Brien characterized his supposed falling out with Hoffa and Hoffa's reported feud with mob-connected New Jersey Teamster Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano as "all just newspaper talk."

O'Brien said he had been in the Memphis area since leaving Detroit three days earlier. He neglected to mention a stop at Teamsters headquarters in Washington for a meeting with Fitzsimmons.

Bloomfield Township Lt. Curt Grennier said the session left him feeling that a smug O'Brien was trying to hoodwink the police.

"It was like he was saying 'Ask me any question you want, but you're not going to learn a whole lot,' " Grennier said. "We kept pressing and pressing: . . . We were pretty sure that he wasn't telling us everything, not that he was lying, but he wasn't divulging some things."

As the detectives left Teamsters headquarters on Trumbull near Tiger Stadium, they were mobbed by reporters and cameramen who followed them down the sidewalk. But the police weren't talking.

Then a reporter spotted O'Brien leaving the building, and, almost as one, the media pack descended on him. A reporter who was standing the wrong way got a TV cord wrapped around his neck and was dragged halfway down the block.

The police huddled afterward to review the three-hour O'Brien interview. They compiled a list of problems:

- On the day Hoffa vanished, O'Brien could not account for his time from about 2:30 until 4 p.m., when he was back at his office. That period was critical in the Hoffa disappearance.
- O'Brien claimed he was at the Southfield Athletic Club at 2 p.m. that day, but no one saw him there.
- He said he was waiting for a ride to work as usual at 8 a.m. July 31, less than 100 feet from the Red Fox lot where Hoffa's abandoned car sat, but claimed he never noticed it.
- He claimed he heard of the disappearance on the morning of July 31 and it enraged him. But others said O'Brien was told around 2 p.m. that day and waited about 20 minutes before making some telephone inquiries.
- He said he was on good terms with both Jimmy Hoffa and son James, but everyone else seemed to know otherwise.

After he left the Teamsters offices, O'Brien called the Hoffa home. Police were eavesdropping, as usual.

"I told them the truth," O'Brien told James Hoffa.

"I want you to take a polygraph," Hoffa told him.

"I'll have to talk to my lawyer about that one," O'Brien said.

Young Hoffa hung up on him.

By the end of the day, as O'Brien headed back to Memphis and his bride, the FBI had formulated its first working theory of the case:

Hoffa met Anthony Giacalone's brother, Vito (Billy Jack) Giacalone, at the Red Fox, and they drove toward the Southfield Athletic Club. But "a hit man was waiting at a select spot and either shot or strangled Hoffa."

But the Giacalones weren't volunteering anything. Grand jury subpoenas produced nothing but a string of nonanswers.

And authorities still had no one credible who saw Hoffa leave the Red Fox lot — until the call from a man who would be known only by one of the code numbers the FBI assigns informants: DE 7223-PCI.

The secret witness told FBI agents he saw Jimmy Hoffa get into a black Lincoln with two men.

Under questioning by agents, he refined it to a maroon car, and insisted it was driven by Chuckie O'Brien. The color maroon was key. Few people knew that O'Brien had told investigators about borrowing Joey Giacalone's new maroon Mercury the day Hoffa vanished. The Mercury also had the long, boxy look of a Lincoln.

The informant was given a lie detector test.

The results were teletyped immediately to FBI Director Clarence Kelly:

"It was concluded that DE 7223-PCI was not truthful."

But the witness was insistent, signing a sworn statement. Another test was given, this time concluding: "Possible deception."

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HOFFA
THE SECRET FILES



HOFFA, from Page 5A

Agents took DE 7223-PCI back to the Red Fox lot, and he pointed out the wrong spot when asked where Hoffa's car had been that day.

But at least one agent who was on the case said the informant remained "a very believable guy."

"He came up with the story on the maroon car, and we thought it was a pretty secret piece of information. We didn't realize that it had appeared in a newspaper article somewhere, very obliquely. . . . We had every reason to believe him. So we did."

The FBI set up a meeting for the informant with Robert Ozer, head of the federal strike force in Detroit working on a grand jury investigation of Hoffa.

DE 7223-PCI told his story yet again.

"This is almost too good to be true," an agent said.

Then DE 7223-PCI added a postscript.

"I'm just trying to help you guys out," he said. "God told me to do this."

The man said his knowledge of Hoffa's abduction had come in a vision sent by God.

Investigators were crushed.

"We felt like idiots," said one FBI agent. "Oh, God, that was a downer."

'Nothing to gain'

New Jersey state police, meanwhile, had tracked Anthony Provenzano down at the Franklin Diner on Route 17 in Hasbruck Heights, N.J., where Sgt. Jim Sweeney of the intelligence bureau conducted an interview.

Hoffa had told several people that he expected Tony Pro to be with Anthony Giacalone at the July 30th meeting.

Provenzano, a New Jersey Teamsters official and ex-convict with reputed underworld ties, told Sweeney he was a close friend of both Jimmy Hoffa and Frank Fitzsimmons and would have "nothing to gain" by Hoffa's disappearance.

Provenzano said he and Hoffa were inseparable in prison, even ate most of their meals together, but had not seen each other since their release.

"He's my type of man," Provenzano said. "Aggressive and hard working."

Provenzano speculated that the only people who stood to benefit from Hoffa's death were his family, who would get insurance money, and black Teamsters, who could make a play for union power with Hoffa out of the way.

On the afternoon of the supposed meeting, Provenzano said he was playing cards at his New Jersey union hall with his brother Salvatore and a pal, Stephen Andretta.

Back in Detroit, authorities obtained a search warrant for Joey Giacalone's 1975 maroon Mercury Brougham, the car O'Brien had borrowed. It was seized Aug. 9 at 2 a.m. from Giacalone's St. Clair Shores condominium.

Preliminary tests showed no sign of human blood on the seats or in the trunk of the car. But numerous hair samples and unknown microscopic particles were taken, as well as several fingerprints.

In the trunk, agents found a Remington Wingmaster model 870 .12-gauge pump shotgun, serial number T056008V. The gun had a black pistol-type grip, an extra-long tube with room for additional shells, and a metal folding stock on which was stamped "For Law Enforcement Only."

Joey Giacalone readily admitted the shotgun belonged to him. Agents confirmed that he bought it on March 17, 1975, at Peter's Gun Shop in Roseville. Agents also found an empty black pistol holster under the front passenger seat. In the glove box were numerous rounds of .38-caliber bullets, several .22-caliber Magnum rounds, a handkerchief and a shirt.

In all, agents collected enough evidence to fill two cartons — each measuring three feet by three feet by three inches — for shipment to FBI labs.

Later, FBI technicians would go over every speck, nit, thread or hair found inside the car. One "single, three-inch brown head hair" from the car had "characteristics similar" to Hoffa's hair, and may have had blood on it.

Three trained tracking dogs, two of them brought in from Philadelphia, picked up Hoffa's scent in the backseat of the Mercury.

But none of it added up to a case against anyone, and the investigation began taking some strange turns as tips continued to pour in.

On Aug. 11, police and FBI agents searched a 100-acre gravel pit owned by Jimmy Hoffa's brother William near Highland on the Oakland-Livingston county border. Later, infrared photos of the pit were taken from a military plane, but there was no sign of a body or disturbed earth to mark a grave.

On Aug. 12, James Hoffa received a ransom letter demanding $1 million in small bills.

"If law is around, good-bye James Riddle Hoffa," the note read. "We send back nuts, not ears. He is already wounded. We had to cut him up a bit." The note, signed Queen Liz, directed Hoffa to deliver the money to the 711 Bar on Michigan in downtown Detroit at 2 p.m. on Aug. 19.

He didn't go. No one else showed up, either, except police.

The FBI decided it was time to talk again with O'Brien, but an agent let slip on Aug. 17 that no one seemed to know where he was.

Headlines and TV news screamed for a day that a key witness in the Hoffa case had vanished. O'Brien's son saw an NBC news account in West Memphis, Ark., and turned to his father.

"Dad," he said, "you're missing."

The next day, O'Brien left his wife again to fly into Detroit for what he expected to be a nice, quiet interview. Instead, the Metro Airport gate area was packed wall to wall with reporters and photographers, yelling questions and fighting for position.

"It was insane," O'Brien said. "The FBI went and leaked this, and you wouldn't believe it there. It was insane."

This session was conducted in a police office at the airport, and agents tried to pin Chuckie down about the car, the fish, the club and just when he had gone where.

Discrepancies kept cropping up.

O'Brien now said he had spoke to Anthony Giacalone the night before Hoffa vanished, and Uncle Tony said he was going spend the whole afternoon of July 30th at the Southfield Athletic Club.

O'Brien added details about his own brief meeting that day with Giacalone, saying Uncle Tony had given him two $100 bills as graduation presents for O'Brien's children.

And O'Brien said he left the club at 3:15 p.m. — later than he'd claimed before.

O'Brien finally gave the agents a timetable, ticking off what he had done that day and when. It did not at all match the story he had just told.

But above all, O'Brien was adamant that Hoffa was not in the maroon Mercury that day.

"Never," he insists to this day. "If he was in there, you might just as well put Hitler in there, too. No way was he in there."

"I loved the Old Man," O'Brien said, and he left town again.

A few days later, FBI agents tried to duplicate Chuckie's movements of July 30. No matter how many times they ran through his timetable, they always came up with 60-90 minutes of extra time.

In late August, the FBI laid out a startling scenario to get a search warrant for Central Sanitation Services, an industrial waste disposal firm in Hamtramck owned in part by Raffael (Jimmy Q) Quasarano.

In a sealed affidavit filed to get the warrant, agents said they had been told by two FBI informants that Hoffa's body was "totally destroyed" by the disposal company's commercial size shredders, compactors and incinerators. One said 10 other gangland victims had gone the same way.

According to the affidavit, Teamster President Fitzsimmons had made an unusual, solitary trip to Detroit the weekend before Hoffa disappeared and secretly met with Quasarano at Larco's Inn on West McNichols.

The affidavit noted that rather than using any of the luxury autos available from the union in Detroit, Fitzsimmons got around during his visit in a car borrowed from Ron Roxburgh, Central Sanitation's president.

Fitzsimmons acknowledged the Detroit visit to the FBI, but denied meeting with Quasarano and Vitale, the affidavit said.

The bureau got its warrant and the FBI took trained dogs into the plant to hunt for any scent of Hoffa. Nothing was found.

FD-36 (Rev. 11-17-88)

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:
☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:
☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:
☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 2/28/94

TO : [redacted]

FROM : [redacted]

SUBJECT : [redacted]

Enclosed for the Bureau is a newspaper clipping from the Detroit Free Press regarding the U.S. Supreme Court ruling to continue the sealed status of files concerning the disappearance and presumed murder of former TEAMSTERS UNION president JAMES R. HOFFA.

[redacted]

non public source material

9-60052-2962

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ (Number) (Time) Per _____

FD-350 (Rev. 5-8-81)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Highest court keeps the Hoffa case files secret

BY JOE SWICKARD
Free Press Staff Writer

The FBI files on the Jimmy Hoffa mystery will remain closed to public inspection, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled Tuesday.

In a decision issued without comment, the high court refused a Free Press argument that the files should be opened because there is no realistic prospect that anyone will ever be tried for the 1975 disappearance and presumed murder of the former Teamsters Union president. The files — thousands of pages — were sought under the federal Freedom of Information Act.

U.S. lawyers say investigation continues

Justice Department lawyers said releasing the documents would "interfere with the ongoing investigation by providing a detailed road map of the government's past and future investigative efforts."

If the files were unsealed, those responsible for Hoffa's disappearance then could plant false leads, intimidate witnesses and fabricate alibis, government lawyers argued.

Free Press Executive Editor Heath J Meriwether said the court decision "means that people will never find out what happened."

Free Press lawyer Herschel Fink said the government position needs "a reality check. . . . Maintaining the fiction of bringing the kidnappers to justice after almost two decades is preposterous," Fink said.

Hoffa disappeared after going to a meeting at the Machus Red Fox restaurant in Bloomfield Township. Hoffa, who was mounting a campaign to regain the union presidency, told family members and associates that he was going to meet alleged underworld figures at the restaurant.

Hoffa was last seen in the restaurant parking lot where his car was found the next morning. No trace of Hoffa has been found.

It is widely believed that Hoffa was killed soon after being picked up at the restaurant and that his body was disposed of in a mob-related refuse facility.

The late New Jersey union leader and alleged gangster Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano is thought to have been behind the crime.

Despite intense investigations and grand jury proceedings, no one was ever charged.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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P 13

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